



Supplement

to *Bulletin of the African Bird Club* Vol 6 No 1 March 1999

Literature Review: papers and notes on African birds published December 1997 to November 1998 (and some from earlier)

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This is the fifth annual review of literature on African birds, and continues from where the fourth (Supplement to *Bull. ABC* vol.5 no.1) finished. It contains details of those papers and notes published and brought to my attention from December 1997 until 30 November 1998, and some which I had missed from earlier dates.

The main ornithological landmark for Africa in 1998 was the International Ornithological Congress held in Durban, South Africa in August. This generated considerable interest and resulted in a whole volume of *Ostrich* (the journal of BirdLife South Africa) being devoted to the Proceedings. The published versions were in the form of abstracts. Those of the plenary sessions and the invited symposia were in the first part, and the second part contained those of offered papers presented orally or as posters. Over 100 of the contributions relate to African birds in some way and therefore warrant inclusion in this supplement. However because they are not full papers, indeed some are only progress reports and some have anyway been published in full elsewhere, I have decided to include these as a separate section at the end, although the abstracts have been subdivided under suitable headings as in the main sections.

As before, the considerable majority of the articles are noted from journals and magazines which I receive personally or which arrive into the library at the British Trust for Ornithology in Thetford. Others arrive as exchanges with this Bulletin. I also was able to visit the Alexander Library in Oxford in October, and a few authors and correspondents sent copies of their own or other articles. I know there are journals and articles which are missed, especially articles and notes in journals which only occasionally have relevant pieces or those with a very local or restricted circulation. Hence I reiterate the plea to authors and editors: if you want your piece included

and it is not in the lists below please send them to the Club address or direct to me. If such items can be supplied in the form of citation and brief abstract as below so much the better.

The following major journals and magazines have been scanned for this issue:

African Bird Journals: Africa—Birds & Birding, Babler, Bee Eater, Bird Numbers, Bulletin of the African Bird Club, East Africa Natural History Society Bulletin, Honeyguide, Journal of African Raptor Biology, Malimbus, Mirafr, Ostrich, Porphyrio, Promerops, SAFRING News, Sandgrouse, Scopus.

International Bird Journals: Alauda, Ardea, Auk, Bird Conservation International, Bird Study, Birding World, British Birds, Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club, Condor, Dutch Birding, Ibis, Journal of Avian Biology, Journal für Ornithologie, Ornithologische Beobachter, Ringing & Migration, Seabird, Die Vogelwarte, Die Vogelwelt, Wader Study Group Bulletin, Wilson Bulletin.

Others: several general ecological and behaviour journals, eg African Journal of Ecology, Animal Behaviour, Conservation Biology, Journal of Animal Ecology, La Terre et Vie.

This supplement follows the pattern of previous ones. Please note: I have not included items listed under such as 'Society outings' or specific mention of the contents of the 'Recent Reports' sections which appear in several journals and newsletters. I have sometimes been selective of notes which are less than c10 lines and which are really no more than a Recent Report. Several items could very easily have been placed in more than one section. I have tried to put each into the section relating to its main contents, but do look in related ones. The General Biology section is something of a catch-all for those mentioning

several subjects. Addresses given are not necessarily those from which the work was done. I have given the present address of the correspondence author as far I can tell this from the paper.

A total of 424 references is included in the following sections: **Checklists and Rarities Reports** (27); **Records—North** (8); **Records—West** (11); **Records—East and North-east** (11); **Records—Southern** (59); **Records: Atlantic Ocean Islands** (2); **Records—Indian Ocean Islands** (4); **Migration—Palearctic** (11); **Migration—Afrotropical** (2); **General Biology** (24); **Ecology** (53); **Conservation** (34); **Behaviour and Voice** (11); **Food and Feeding Behaviour** (34); **Nests and Breeding Seasons** (63); **Identification** (6); **Taxonomy and Evolution** (22); **Morphology and Physiology** (8); **Sites** (12); **Ringings** (10); and **Miscellaneous** (12).

The section at the end containing the abstracts from the International Ornithological Congress is divided as follows: **Checklists** (1); **Migration—Palearctic** (4); **Migration—Afrotropical** (2); **General Biology** (2); **Ecology** (24); **Conservation** (39); **Behaviour and Voice** (7); **Food and Feeding** (2); **Nests and Breeding Biology** (7); **Taxonomy and Evolution** (16); **Morphology and Physiology** (3); **Ringings** (1); and **Miscellaneous** (4).

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to several people, in particular Norbert Bahr, Roger Safford and Volker Salewski, for help in compiling this supplement, for drawing my attention to items I had missed and for sending me items from journals I am not able to see regularly.

Checklists and Rarities Reports

Bergier P., Franchimont J., Thevenot M. et la Commission d'Homologation Marocaine. 1997. Les oiseaux rares au Maroc—rapport de la Commission d'Homologation Marocaine Numero 2 (1996). *Porphyrio* 9: 165–173. (4 Ave. Folco de Baroncelli, 13210 Saint Remy de Provence, France)

31 records of 44 submitted were accepted. Summaries of each species report in English.

Bourne W.R.P. & Simmons K.E.L. 1998. A preliminary list of the birds of Ascension Island, South Atlantic Ocean. *Sea Swallow* 47: 42–56. (Dept. Zool., Aberdeen Univ., Tillydrone Ave., Aberdeen AB9 2TN, UK)

Annotated list of those recorded within 200 nautical miles of the island.

Brewster C.A. & Major S. (compilers) 1998. Report from the Records Subcommittee. *Babbler* 33: 38–45. (Botswana Bird Club PO Box 71, Gaborone, Botswana)

Records of 13 Category A species accepted, and full revised list of Category A and B species given.

Brewster C.A. & Tyler S.J. (compilers) 1998. Summary of Category B records. *Babbler* 33: 46–61. (Botswana Bird Club, PO Box 71, Gaborone, Botswana)

Full annotated list.

Clouet M., Goar J.-L. & Barrau C. 1998. Contribution à l'étude ornithologique de l'Île de Socotra. *Alauda* 66: 235–246. (16 ave. des Chamettes, F-31500 Toulouse, France)

2 expeditions, in Nov 1993 and Nov 1997, found 54 species. 74 point counts performed.

Cordeiro N.J. & Grimshaw J. 1998.

Further bird records of interest from the northern and western slopes of Mt Kilimanjaro. *Scopus* 20: 60–62. (Dept. Biol. Sci., Room 3250AP SES, Univ. Illinois at Chicago, 845 W. Taylor St, Chicago, IL 60607-7060, USA)

Additions to Cordeiro's list (1994 *Scopus* 17: 65–112)

Dowsett-Lemaire F. & Dowsett R.J.

1998. Further additions to and deletions from the avifauna of Congo-Brazzaville. *Malimbus* 20: 15–32. (Rue des Lavandes 12, F-34190 Ganges, France)

73 species added (67 from Odzala and Nouabalé-Ndoki Nat. Parks in the north), of which 20 are Palearctic migrants. 3 species deleted from list.

El Ghazi A. & Franchimont J. 1997.

Chronique ornithologique du GOMAC pour 1996. Partie I: des Grebes aux Pics. *Porphyrio* 9: 70–164. (87 rue 7, Dar Daon, Sidi Bouzekri, Meknès, Morocco)

Non-passerine part of Moroccan bird report for 1996.

Franchimont J., El Ghazi A., Thevenot M. & Bergier P. 1997.

Liste GOMAC révisée et status des espèces régulièrement observables au Maroc. *Porphyrio* 9: 28–44. (Fac. des Sci. de Meknès, BP 4010, Beni-M'Hamed, 50003 Meknès, Morocco)

334 regular species in Morocco listed.

Ghazi A. 1997.

Inventaire de l'avifaune nidificatrice de la carrière de Sidi Bouzekri (Meknès). *Porphyrio* 9: 45–50. (Fac. des Sci. de Meknès, BP 4010, Beni-M'Hamed, 50003 Meknès, Morocco)

Regular nesting species in Morocco listed.

Haugaard J. 1997. The Nyika bird project. *SAFRING News* 26: 55–62. (PO Box 409, Blantyre, Malawi)

17 Palearctic and 132 Afrotropical species recorded in northern extension of the Nyika Nat. Park covering the Nyika Plateau. Annotated list included.

Hines C. 1995. Birds of the Gam Resettlement Area. *Lanioturdus* 28: 26–38. (PO Box 22527, Windhoek, Namibia)

Fully annotated checklist for area in SE corner of Otjozondjupa Region.

Kirwan G.M. 1998. Additions to the avifauna of Socotra and Abd Al-Kuri, with notes on the occurrence of some resident and migrant species. *Bull. ABC* 5: 17–21. (55 West End St., Norwich NR2 4DP, UK)

Updates author's *Sandgrouse* (17: 83–101) paper with results of recent visits and the rediscovery of the Forbes-Watson manuscript from a 1964 visit. A full species list is included.

Kopij G. 1997. The birds of Bloem Spruit, Bloemfontein. *Mirafra* 14(3/4): 8–12. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Free State, PO Box 339, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa)

56 breeding and 18 non-breeding species recorded in valley excluding those on dams.

Kopij G. 1997. Birds of Bethlehem, Free State Province. *Mirafra* 14(3/4): 5–12. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Free State, PO Box 339, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa)

1,000 ha surveyed consisting of town, suburbs, golf course and nature reserve.

Mustoe S.H., Capper D.R., Lowen J.C., Leadley J.D. & Rakotomalala D. 1998. Zombitse-Vohibasia: a new National Park

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in south-west Madagascar. *Bull. ABC* 5: 39–45. (The Old Roost, Cold Aston, Cheltenham, Glos GL54 3BN, UK)

Some notes on the importance of this area, the only known haunt of Appert's Greenbul *Phyllastrephus apperti*. A full list of species included.

Nixon A. 1998. Analysis of birds recorded at Mondplaa Ponds 1993–1996. *Bee Eater* 49: 30–31. (No address given)

138 species listed over 3 years with percentage of visits on which recorded (of 25 visits).

Pausch E. 1998. Birds of Kutse Game Reserve, Botswana. *Babbler* 33: 5–16. (2730 Ariane Dr. No. 64, San Diego, California 92117-3446, USA)

233 species recorded in the 2,500 km² up to 1998. Annotated list given.

Pearson D.J. & Turner D.A. (compilers) 1998. Review of Kenya bird records 1992–1996. *Scopus* 20: 65–83. (c/o PO Box 48019, Nairobi, Kenya)

Effectively replaces part 3 of *Scopus* vols 16–19 and as such is a short Kenya bird report for these years.

Quantrill B. & Quantrill R. 1998. The birds of the Parcours Vita, Yaoundé, Cameroon. *Malimbus* 20: 1–14. (Tor House, 36 Newtown, Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts BA15 1NF, UK)

163 species recorded at site in northern suburbs of Yaoundé and breeding evidence for 37.

Salewski V. & Bairlein F. 1997. [Comoé National Park, Ivory Coast: research and birdwatching in the largest sanctuary in West Africa.] (In German) *Falke* 44: 356–363. (No address given)

A project on wintering ecology of European migrants with notes on 10 new species for the park and travelling.

Sauvage A. & Rodwell S.P. 1998. Notable observations of birds in Senegal (excluding Parc National des Oiseaux du Djoudj), 1984–1994. *Malimbus* 20: 75–122. (23 rue J. Moulin, 08090 Aiglemont, France)

Notes on distribution and abundance of 438 species, 3 new to country and 50 more seen on less than 10 previous occasions.

Turner D.A. 1998. East African Rare Birds Committee. *Scopus* 20: 84. (PO Box 48019, Nairobi, Kenya)

Lists accepted and not accepted records for Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda for 1992–1996.

Vogele W. 1998. Birds of the Lion Park, Gaborone. *Babbler* 33: 30–31. (Galgensberg 63, 34346 Hann. Münden, Germany)

1,000 ha area of farmland c25 km south of Gaborone recorded 174 species. Full list available from Botswana Bird Club.

Waiyaki E. 1996. An avifaunal survey of the Cherangani Hills forests, Kenya. *Nat. Mus. Kenya Centre for Biodiversity reports: ornithology* 27: 1–10. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Surveys mainly in Kapkanyar by observing and mist-netting. Species list included.

Waiyaki E.M. & Bennun L.A. 1996. Birds of the Lembus Forests, South Baringo District, Kenya: a survey. *Nat. Mus. Kenya Centre for Biodiversity reports: ornithology* 24: 1–10. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Avifauna characteristic of highland forests of Kenya west of Rift Valley and like that in Mau Forest. Currently pressure is low. Species list included.

Records—North Africa

Benyacoub S. 1998. La Tourterelle turque *Streptopelia decaocto* en Algérie. *Alauda* 66: 251–253. (Univ. d'Annaba, Dept. Ecol., Station Biol., El-Mellah, BP 12, El-Hadjar 23000, Annaba, Algeria)

Collared Dove seems to have colonised Algeria from Morocco.

Castell P. 1998. The first breeding record of Swift Tern *Sterna bergii* in Egypt. *Sandgrouse* 20: 49–51. (Fairlawn, 679 Chester Rd., Great Sutton, South Wirral L66 2LN, UK)

c25 pairs on south end of Gezirat Umm el Heimat in colony of c750 pairs of Lesser Crested Tern *S. bengalensis*.

Dufourny H. 1997. Observation d'une mouette atricille (*Larus atricilla*) à l'embouchure de l'Oued Souss le 16 Mai 1996. *Porphyrio* 9: 65–68. (20 rue du Raimbai, B-7387 Honnelles, Belgium)

Laughing Gull is fifth record for Morocco.

Maumary L., Vallotton L., Dutoit V. & Fleury Z. 1998. Chocard à bec jaune *Pyrrhocorax gracillus* et Traquet isabelle *Oenanthe isabellina* en Tunisie. *Alauda* 66: 247–250. (Praz-Séchaud 40, CH-1010 Lausanne, Switzerland)

Records of Alpine Chough and Isabelline Wheatear in Feb 1998.

Meininger P.L. & Verkerk A.J. 1998.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus* breeding in the Nile Delta, Egypt. *Sandgrouse* 20: 52. (Liszlaan 5, 4384 KM Vlissingen, The Netherlands)

c20 nests on floating vegetation in Lake Maryut.

Provençal P. & Sorensen U.G. 1998.

Medieval record of Siberian White Crane *Grus leucogeranus* in Egypt. *Ibis* 140: 333–335. (Naturhist. Mus. Aarhus, Universitetsparken Bygn. 210, DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark)

Good description of this critically endangered species from 1315–1316 AD.

Qninba A., Thevenot M., Dakki M., Benhoussa A. & Aziz el Agbani M. 1998.

Observations hivernales au Maroc du Phalarope à bec large *Phalaropus fulicarius*. *Alauda* 66: 113–116. (Fac. des Sci. de Kénitra, Dept. Biol., BP 133, Kénitra, Morocco)

Analysis of Grey Phalarope records 1926–1998 shows some winter off northern Morocco as well as in south.

Tewinkel S. 1998. [Desert birds in southern Morocco. On larks and wheatears.] (German) *Falke* 45: 24–29. (No address given)

Bird observations and travelling in Morocco.

Records—West Africa

Catry P. & Mendes L. 1998. Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* and Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina*, new to Guinea-Bissau. *Malimbus* 20: 123–124. (Appl. Orn. Unit, Graham Kerr Building, Univ. Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ, UK)

Former in Mar 1997 near Bissau, latter in Feb 1997 near Quinhámel.

Claffey P. 1998. The status of Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus* and Red-chested Cuckoo *C. solitarius* in Benin. *Malimbus* 20: 56–57. (BP 302, Parakou, Benin)

1 of former in June 1997 and latter seen frequently Apr–Sept.

Claffey P. 1998. Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*, new to Benin. *Malimbus* 20: 57–58. (BP 302, Parakou, Benin)

At Bétérou in Mar 1997.

Collar N.J. 1998. Wattleed Cranes in Guinea-Bissau. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 118: 57–58. (c/o BirdLife Int., Wellbrook Court, Cambridge CB3 0NA, UK)

Comments on Hazevoet (*Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 117: 56–59) concerning specimen of *Bugeranus carunculatus*.

Demey R. 1998. A wet season record of Cut-throat Finch *Amadina fasciata* from Togo. *Malimbus* 20: 125–126. (Van der Heimstr. 52, 2582 SB Den Haag, The Netherlands)

Male in Parc Nat. de la Kéran in north in Jul 1979.

Hopkins M. 1998. Buff-throated Sunbird *Nectarinia adelberti* and Fire-bellied Woodpecker *Dendropicos pyrrhogaster* in Cameroon. *Malimbus* 20: 12+125. (TCNN, PO Box 64, Bukuru, Plateau State, Nigeria)

Former common near Ekok Jan 1996. latter seen there.

Robel D. 1998. An observation of Ayres' Hawk-Eagle *Hieraetus dubius* in The

Gambia. *Bull. ABC* 5: 128–129. (Böliner Platz 1, 03046 Cottbus, Germany)

Aug 1994 south of Yundum airport.

Salewski V. 1998. Yellow-breasted Apalis *Apalis flavida*: a new bird for Mali. *Bull. ABC* 5: 59. (Inst. für Vogelforschung, 'Vogelwarte Helgoland', An der Vogelwarte 27, 26386 Wilhelmshaven, Germany)

In Jan 1995 caught in mist-net near Bougouni.

Salewski V. 1998. A record of an immature Ovambo Sparrowhawk *Accipiter ovampensis* from Ivory Coast. *Bull. ABC* 5: 120–121. (Inst. für Vogelforschung, 'Vogelwarte Helgoland', An der Vogelwarte 27, 26386 Wilhelmshaven, Germany)

Sept 1997 in south-west of Comoé Nat. Park.

Salewski V. 1998. Brown-throated Sand Martin *Riparia paludicola*, new for Ivory Coast. *Malimbus* 20: 127–128. (Inst. für Vogelforschung, 'Vogelwarte Helgoland', An der Vogelwarte 27, 26386 Wilhelmshaven, Germany)

Seen frequently in northern winter months in Comoé Nat. Park.

Salewski V. & Korb J. 1998. New bird records from Comoé National Park, Ivory Coast. *Malimbus* 20: 54–55. (Inst. für Vogelforschung, 'Vogelwarte Helgoland', An der Vogelwarte 27, 26386 Wilhelmshaven, Germany)

Description of the first breeding record of Marabou Stork *Leptoptilos crumeniferus* in Ivory Coast and the first records of 2 species for Nat. Park.

Records—East and North-east Africa

Archer A.L. & Iles D.B. 1998. New bird records for Unguja (Zanzibar Island). *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 118: 166–172. (PO Box 15676, Nairobi, Kenya)

34 species added to Pakenham's (1979) BOU Checklist, 14 of which are Palearctic migrants.

Dewhurst C.F. 1998. Sighting of Waldrapp *Geronticus eremita* in Eritrea near the Red Sea coast. *Scopus* 20: 57. (Nat. Res. Inst., Central Ave., Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4TB, UK)

5 at Harghigo in Feb 1997.

Harvey W.G. 1998. Interesting bird observations from Ethiopia. *Scopus* 20: 48–51. (Pound Farm, Blackham, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN3 9TY, UK)

Imperial Eagle *Aquila beliiaca*, Barbary Falcon *Falco (peregrinus) peregrinoides*, Harwood's Francolin *Francolinus harwoodi*, Black-winged Lovebird *Agapornis taranta*

and Hemprich's Hornbill *Tockus hemprichii*.

Hunter N., Carter C. & Mlungu E. 1998. A new location for the Usambara Eagle Owl *Bubo vosseleri*. *Scopus* 20: 52–53. (8 Ennismore Ave., Chiswick, London W4 1SF, UK)

In Uluguru Forest. In *Birds of Africa* is a subspecies of *B. poensis*.

Mwebi O. 1998. Range extension of the Bar-breasted Firefinch *Lagonosticta rufopicta*. *Scopus* 20: 53–55. (Dept. Osteology, Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

At Raganga, Kisii District, western Kenya in Apr 1997.

Potterton T. 1998. Sighting of White-collared Kingfisher *Halcyon chloris* in south-central Somalia. *Scopus* 20: 56–57. (Penroche Dvlpmnt Services Ltd, PO Box 42994, Nairobi, Kenya)

Northeast of Mogadishu during "a recent visit".

Pearson D.J. 1998. Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca* at Kakamega Forest—a readmission to the East African list. *Scopus* 20: 46–48. (4 Lupin Close, Reydon, Southwold, Suffolk IP18 6NW, UK)

A specimen in Nat. Hist. Mus., Tring, UK collected in Dec 1965 is this species.

Pearson D.J., Jackson C.H. & Backhurst G.C. 1998. Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta* at Ngulia, Kenya—first record for East Africa. *Scopus* 20: 43–45. (4 Lupin Close, Reydon, Southwold, Suffolk IP18 6NW, UK)

In Nov 1995 and reviews earlier claims.

Schollaert V. 1998. Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* in Ethiopia and its status in Africa. *Bull. ABC* 5: 129–130. (1 Hameau des Papins, B-7911 Frasnes-lez-Buissenal, Belgium)

Feb 1997 at Lake Ziway is fourth record. Only 5 others in Africa (Djibouti, Morocco and 3 in Egypt). (But see Branch 1998 under Records Southern Africa—Ed)

Taylor B. 1997. Whitewinged Flufftails in Ethiopia. *Ethiopian Wildl. and NHS newsletter* July–Sept 1997: 5–6. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Natal, PB X01, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg 3209, South Africa)

Some notes on *Sarothrura ayresi* at the Suluta site with breeding proven in Aug 1996.

Welch G. & Welch H. 1998. Mystery birds from Djibouti. *Bull. ABC* 5: 46–50. (Minsmere Reserve, Westleton, Saxmundham, Suffolk IP17 3BY, UK)

A finch, like Green-winged Pytilia *Pytilia melba* and probably an undescribed race of this and a sunbird, probably a

Nectarinia but unlike any known species, are described and illustrated from the coast north of Gulf of Tadjoura, but no specimens of either yet.

Records—Southern Africa

Allan D. 1995. Eurasian Sparrowhawks and aberrant Red-breasted Sparrowhawks revisited. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 10: 65. (Durban Mus., PB 4085, Durban, South Africa)

Local *Accipiter rufiventris* can look very like European *A. nisus*. Nevertheless the Swellendam specimen of latter still considered to be so.

Beel C. 1997. Yet another new bird for Zambia ...? *Zambian Orn. Soc. Newsletter* 27: 7. (PO Box 9068, Ilmipi, Zambia)

A Greater Spotted Eagle *Aquila clanga* was satellite tracked from breeding grounds in Poland to the Luangwa Valley where it was not actually seen!

Botha A.J. 1997. Records of new (*) & interesting bird sightings: Qwa Qwa National Park. *Mirafr 14*(C): 12–16. (PO Box 271, Clarens 9707, South Africa)

Notes on 28 new and 11 other species.

Boycott R.C. & Monadjem A. 1998. First record of Orange Ground Thrush in Swaziland. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (1): 16. (No address given)

Zoothera gurneyi in Oct 1997.

Branch B. 1998. Citrine Wagtail—a spectacular first. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (3): 15. (No address given)

Motacilla citreola at Gamtoos River Mouth, 50 km west of Port Elizabeth from early May 1998.

Brown C.J. 1997. Early record of a Yellowbilled Kite in Windhoek leads to a hypothesis on their population and migration patterns. *Lanioturdus* 30 (4): 6–8. (PO Box 6612, Aussspannplatz, Windhoek, Namibia)

Milvus migrans parasitus behind Avis Dam on 30 Aug 1997.

Brown C.J. 1997. "Stanley's Bustard" in Etosha National Park, the first record of Jackson's Bustard in Etosha. *Lanioturdus* 30 (4): 19–20. (Dir. of Env. Affairs, PB 13306, Windhoek, Namibia)

Neotis denbami in Nov 1997 is first for north-central Namibia for 70 years.

Brown C.J. 1997. Ospreys at Friedenau Dam. *Lanioturdus* 30 (4): 29. (PO Box 6612, Aussspannplatz, Windhoek, Namibia)

Pandion haliaetus in Nov 1997.

Brown D. 1998. Cinnamonbreasted Warbler nest. *Bee Eater* 49: 4. (No address given)

Euryptila subcinnamomea in Karoo Nat. Park in Aug 1997.

Brown D. 1998. European Cuckoo at Somerset East. *Bee Eater* 49: 15. (No address given)

Cuculus canorus in Dec 1997.

Brown D. 1998. Sightings from George and Wilderness Regions. *Bee Eater* 49: 21. (No address given)

Records of several notable species.

Chiweshe N.C. 1998. Blue-throated Sunbird at Manjinji Pan in the south-east lowveld. *Honeyguide* 44: 31–32. (Orn. Res. Unit, Dept. Nat. Parks, PO Box 2283, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

Antheptes reichenowi.

Curtis A.B. 1997. Shaft-tailed Widow and unusual numbers of Long-tailed Paradise Widows at Old Mutare. *Honeyguide* 43: 223. (PO Box 24, Mutare, Zimbabwe)

Male and 2 female *V. regia* seen and 40 male and many female *Vidua paradisea* in Apr 1997.

Dickinson V., Franklin B., Harris M. & Hartley M. 1997. Redshank and Purple Gallinule at Kariba. *On Safari* 16: 17. (No address given)

Tringa totanus and *Porphyrio porphyrio*.

Ertel R. & Rose B. 1997. [First African record of Buller's Albatross *Diomedea bulleri*.] (German with English summary) *Limicola* 11: 306–309. (Wacholderweg 9, D-71686 Remseck, Germany)

Off Cape peninsular in Aug 1995.

Esterhuizen J. & Beilis N. 1996. European Hobbies in the Free State, South Africa. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 11: 21. (PO Box 17523, Bainsvlei 9338, South Africa)

3 records of *Falco subbuteo* in Bloemfontein area Jan and Dec 1995 and Jan 1996.

Friede G. 1995. Vogel in und um Namutoni. *Lanioturdus* 28: 16–22. (PO Box 3910, Swakopmund, Namibia)

Includes a list for site.

Graaff J. 1997. American Golden Plovers on the west coast. *Promerops* 229: 12. (No address given)

Pluvialis americana in Feb 1995 and Mar 1997 near Veldrif.

Griesel R. 1997. [Observations in the Bethulie/Springfontein districts, Summer 1996/1997.] (Afrikaans with English summary) *Mirafra* 14(3/4): 6–7. (Posbus 198, Bethulie 9992, South Africa)

Several observations of breeding and arrival/departure dates of 27 species.

Grobler G.P.J. 1997. Whitethroats in the southwestern Free State. *Mirafra* 14(3): 2. (PO Box 37505, Langenhovenpark 9330, South Africa)

Several *Sylvia communis* caught over winter, some in full moult but 8 in one net

at end of Mar all completed and heavier. Where had they come from?

Hartley R.R., Mundy P.J. & Goodwin W. 1998. Eastward range extensions of Spotted Sandgrouse. *Honeyguide* 44: 28. (Falcon College, Esigodini, Zimbabwe)

Pterocles burchelli seen a few times around Esigodini Apr–Aug 1997.

Hawthorpe M. & Hawthorpe B. 1998. Eurasian Oystercatchers in the Eastern Cape. *Promerops* 234: 10–11. (No address given)

Haematopus ostralegus at Blue Horizon Bay in Feb 1998.

Hawthorpe M. & Hawthorpe B. 1998. Black Egret at Verlorenvlei. *Promerops* 234: 11. (No address given)

Egretta ardesiaca in Mar 1998. (Record subject to verification by Rarities Committee.)

Herremans M. & Herremans-Tonnoeyr D. 1998. A Greater Kestrel (*Falco rupicoloides*) in the South Western Cape. *Promerops* 234: 9. (No address given)

A first-year bird caught and ringed July 1997.

Hines C. 1995. First record of River Warbler for Namibia. *Lanioturdus* 28: 43. (PO Box 22527, Windhoek, Namibia)

Locustella fluviatilis in Dec 1994 caught in Mahango Game Reserve.

Hines C. 1997. Grey-headed Sparrow complex in Namibia: which species occur in the Caprivi? *Lanioturdus* 30 (4): 30–31. (PO Box 22527, Windhoek, Namibia)

Some birds considered to be *Passer griseus* found at Impalila Island despite *Passer diffusus* being common. Records require confirmation.

Hines C., Coy A., Coy E., Parker S., Figaji T. & Samwena P. 1997. A rash of rarities: birding at Impalila Island and along the Zambezi River. *Lanioturdus* 30 (4): 8–16. (PO Box 22527, Windhoek, Namibia)

Notes on various birds seen in Nov 1997 at Impalila, at eastern end of Caprivi Strip.

Hines C. & Mendelsohn J. 1998. Whitebellied Korhaan in Namibia: a first record from the Andoni grasslands. *Lanioturdus* 31 (1): 19–20. (No address given)

Eupodotis senegalensis but whether the northern form or southern form (*califfa*) is uncertain.

James J.M.B. 1997. Sabota Lark at Gache Gache, Kariba. *Honeyguide* 43: 219–220. (Cornwall Farm, PO Box 581, Marondera, Zimbabwe)

Mirafra sabota in Charara Hunting Area in June 1997 is large range extension.

Kaestner P.G. 1998. Identifying immature plovers on the coast: do Kentish Plovers occur in Namibia? *Lanioturdus* 31 (1): 22–23. (PB 12029, Aussspannplatz, Windhoek, Namibia)

A possible *Charadrius alexandrinus* at Walvis Bay in Nov 1997.

Leonard P., Kaholo H. & Wishkoti B. 1997. Franklin's Gull in Lochinvar—new to Zambia. *Zambian Orn. Soc. Newsletter* 27: 3–5. (Kafue Fisheries, PO Box 31522, Lusaka, Zambia)

Larus pipixcan in Jan 1997.

Liversidge R., Hawthorne M. & Hawthorne B. 1998. Mountain Pipit on migration. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (2): 13. (No address given)

Anthus hoeschii record in Feb 1998 near Kimberley.

Lombard A., Gibbons A. & Watkins M. 1998. Observations on Rock Kestrels at False Bay Hospital. *Promerops* 233: 10–11. (No address given)

Some notes on a breeding pair of *Falco tinnunculus* in a revolving pipe and of catching Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*.

Lovett R. & Lovett V. 1998. Recurrence of Great Snipe *Gallinago media* at Shashe Dam. *Babbler* 33: 26. (PO Box 77, Shashe, Botswana)

Seen in Sept 1996 and 1997 at same spot.

Maphisa D.H. 1997. Some interesting sightings from Lesotho. *Mirafra* 14(3/4): 2–3. (c/o Prof. D.P. Ambrose, Nat. Univ. Lesotho, PO Roma 180, Lesotho)

Notes on 9 species.

Martin P. 1998. Greater Frigatebird at Port Elizabeth. *Bee Eater* 49: 14. (No address given)

Fregata minor in Feb 1998 is about 6th record for Eastern Cape.

Martin R., Martin E. & Pepler D. 1997. Booted Eagle: an early arrival at nest site. *Promerops* 231: 9. (No address given)

Hieraaetus pennatus back at nest site on 31 July 1997, 2 weeks early.

Martin R. & Pepler D. 1997. Rock Pipits in the Baviaanhoek Mountains, Karooport. *Promerops* 231: 9. (No address given)

Anthus crenatus 40km NE of Ceres at edge of range.

Metelerkamp H. & Swaile S. 1997. Yellow-billed Oxpeckers at Lake Kariba. *On Safari* 16: 17. (No address given)

2 *Buphagus africanus* seen with group of Red-billed *B. erythrorhynchus* in Feb 1997.

Mundy P.J. 1998. Rüppell's Griffon in Zimbabwe—a third time. *Honeyguide* 44: 23–24. (Dept. Nat. Parks, PO Box 2283, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

Gyps rueppellii on Vlakfontein Estate in June 1997.

Mundy P.J. & Goodwin W. 1998. A River Warbler in the hand. *Honeyguide* 44: 31. (Dept. Nat. Parks, PO Box 2283, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

Locustella fluviatilis in Bulawayo in Dec 1995.

Oettlé E. 1997. Calidris Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus calidris*) in Malmesbury. *Promerops* 228: 15–16. (No address given)
A record of this migrant race (a road casualty) in Dec 1996.

Parker V. 1995. Further observations on birds of prey in southern Mozambique. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 10: 64. (c/o Endangered Wildl. Trust, PB X11, Parkview 2122, South Africa)

Jackal Buzzard *Buteo rufifasciatus* and Western Banded Snake Eagle *Circus cinerascens* new for Mozambique.

Pepler D. & Martin R. 1997. Further sightings of Honey Buzzards in Stellenbosch. *Promerops* 229: 11–12. (No address given)
2 more records of *Pernis apivorus*.

Pepler D. & Martin R. 1998. Additional notes on Peregrine Falcons of Stellenbosch. *Promerops* 234: 12. (No address given)

New nest sites of *Falco peregrinus* found from a helicopter in a well worked patch.

Pritchard D. 1998. A sighting of a Bearded Robin *Erythropgia quadrivirgata* and some interesting behaviour from Barred Owls *Glaucidium capense*. *Babbler* 33: 29–30. (Shakawe Lodge, PO Box 12, Shakawe, Botswana)

Former in Mar 1998 and latter attacked tape of song of Thrush Nightingale *Luscinia luscinia* being used to try to entice this.

Pritchard D. & Haggett A. 1998. Melanistic Ovambo Sparrowhawk *Accipiter ovampensis* at Shakawe Lodge. *Babbler* 33: 30. (Shakawe Lodge, PO Box 12, Shakawe, Botswana)

In Apr 1998.

Pryce E. & Pritchard D. 1998. Bird news from Shakawe 1996/97; and October 1997 to January 1998 by Pritchard D. & Pryce D.. *Babbler* 33: 28–29. (Shakawe Lodge, PO Box 12, Shakawe, Botswana)

Highlights of rarer species seen at Shakawe Lodge.

Riddell I.C. 1998. Birds of Inyantue and North Hwange National Park. *Honeyguide* 44: 33–34. (PO Box 4330, Harare, Zimbabwe)

Records of 6 species recorded as doubtful in Hwange list (*Honeyguide* 32: 68–87).

Roberts E.L. 1998. Emerald Cuckoo at Hermanus. *Promerops* 233: 13. (No address given)

Chrysococcyx cupreus in Jan 1998. (Record subject to verification by Rare Birds Committee.)

Searle A.W. 1997. African and Striped Crakes breeding in Hwange National Park. *Honeyguide* 43: 219. (Umtshike Mgmt. Unit, PB 5776, Dete, Zimbabwe)

Crex egregia and *Aenigmatolimnas marginalis* with chicks in early Mar 1996.

Searle R. 1998. Noteworthy records from the Humansdorp area. *Bee Eater* 49: 2–3. (No address given)

Notes on 37 species, 2 of them national and 8 local rarities.

Tree T. 1997. The Keiskamma White Pelican. *Bee Eater* 48: 45–46. (No address given)

Pelecanus onocrotalus still there Mar 1997.

Tripp M. 1998. Blackwinged Stilt (295) breeding in numbers at Strandfontein sewage works. *Promerops* 232: 9–10. (No address given)

28 nests of *Himantopus himantopus* in Sept–Oct 1997.

Tripp M. 1998. Marabou Stork (89) in the wheatlands. *Promerops* 233: 13–14. (No address given)

Leptoptilos crumeniferus near Riviersonderend in Feb 1998. (Record subject to verification by Rare Birds Committee.)

Tyler S.J. 1998. An influx of Dusky Larks *Pinarocorys nigricans* in the Gaborone area in early 1998. *Babbler* 33: 32–33. (Room 106, DAHP, PB 0032, Gaborone, Botswana)

Exceptional number seen in late summer of 1997–98, mostly single birds.

Tyler S.J., Lewis J.M.S. & Tyler L. 1997. First record of Basra Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus griseldis* in Botswana. *Ostrich* 68: 44–45. (Room 106, Dept. Anim. Health & Prod., PB 0032, Gaborone, Botswana)

One caught Jan 1997 15 km north of Gaborone.

Tyler S.J. & Tyler L. 1998. A comment on African Finfoots on the Marico River. *Babbler* 33: 33. (Room 106, Dept. Anim. Health & Prod., PB 0032, Gaborone, Botswana)

There are several pairs of *Podica senegalensis* near Malolwane.

Webster K. 1998. Abdim's Storks at Queenstown. *Bee Eater* 49: 16. (No address given)

Ciconia abdimii in Jan 1998.

Whittington P.A., Dyer B.M. & Crawford R.J.M. 1998. Leach's Storm Petrel: further news from the islands. *Bird Numbers* 7 (1): 20. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Oceanodroma leucorhoa confirmed breeding on Dyer Island and found on Dassen in 1997.

Records—Atlantic Ocean Islands

Hille S. 1998. [Status of the kites *Milvus milvus farciacauda* (Hartert, 1914) and *Milvus m. migrans* (Boddaert, 1783) on the Cape Verde Islands.] (German with English summary) *J. Orn.* 139: 73–75. (Inst. für Allgemeine und Spezielle Zool., Bereich Tierökologie, Justus-Liebig-Universität, Stephanstr. 24, D-35390 Giessen, Germany)

Red Kite population 5–6 individuals and Black Kite 3–5 in 1996 and 1997. Drastic reduction in numbers may be habitat changes, human pressures and persecution or poisoned meat.

Muller H.E. & Lippert K. 1998. [American Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* on Fuerteventura, new to the Palaearctic.] (German with English summary) *Limicola* 12: 80–84. (Feldgrienen 2, D-16831 Rheinsberg, Germany)

Mar 1993 accepted as first record.

Records—Indian Ocean Islands

Desfayes M. 1997. A specimen of *Hirundo abyssinica* from Madagascar. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 117: 315. (Rue de Prévent, 1926 Fully, Switzerland)

Collected in Jan 1925 and found in Geneva Mus. appears to be first record.

Le Corre M. & Probst J.M. 1997. Migrant and vagrant birds of Europa Island (southern Mozambique Channel). *Ostrich* 68: 13–18. (Mus. d'Hist. Nat., 97400 Saint Denis, Réunion Island)

30 non-breeding species identified with 22 new records for island. 8 not recorded in Madagascar with 2 of them not on any other oceanic island in area.

Matyot P. 1998. Ornithological observations in Seychelles from the diary of Hugh Scott, July 1908–March 1909. *Birdwatch* 25: 4–7. (No address given)
Verbatim extracts about birds.

Morris R. 1998. First record of European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* in Madagascar. *Bull. ABC* 5: 58. (c/o SWK Metroplaza Tower 1, Hing Fong Rd., Kwai Fong, Hong Kong)

A number seen in Nov 1996 just north of Ifaty.

Migration—Palearctic

Brett J. 1995. Migration of Lesser Kestrels in the Serengeti National Park, Tanzania. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 10: 63. (210A Hawk Mountain Rd., Kempton, PA 19529, USA)

Nearly 150,000 *Falco naumanni* on 11 Mar 1996 and 15,000 on 13 Mar.

van den Brink B., Bijlsma R.G. & van der Have T. (eds) 1998. European songbirds and Barn Swallows *Hirundo rustica* in Ghana: a quest for Constant Effort Sites and Swallow roosts in December/January 1996/97. *WJWO report* 58: 53pp. (c/o Dribergsweg 16c, 3708 JB Zeist, The Netherlands)

Swallow roosts seem promising but CES will be difficult as most birds at low density and territorial. More sites need to be investigated.

Herremans M. 1998. Strategies, punctuality of arrival and ranges of migrants in the Kalahari Basin, Botswana. *Ibis* 140: 585–590. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

2 strategies: a) arrive before November and not affected by rainfall; b) arrive after mid-November and highly dependent on rain amount and timing. Second results in erratic occupation and complicates assessment of 'effective' size of non-breeding range.

Meyburg B.-U., Meyburg C., Mizera T., Maciorowski G. & Kowalski J. 1998. Greater Spotted Eagle wintering in Zambia. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (1): 62–68. (No address given)

An adult *Aquila clanga* tracked by satellite from breeding grounds in Poland to the South Luangwa Nat. Park, Zambia although it was not seen in the latter.

Meyburg B.-U., Meyburg C. & Barbraud J.-C. 1998. Migration strategies of an adult Short-toed Eagle *Circus gallicus* tracked by satellite. *Alauda* 66: 39–48. (Wangenheimstr. 32, D-14193 Berlin, Germany)

An individual breeding north of Saintes went to southwest Niger over 20 days and 4,685 km. 506 localisations gave data on timing of movements through day and over period as well as route taken.

Salewski V., Bairlein F. & Leisler B. 1998. Wintering strategies of Palearctic migrants in West Africa. *Zoology* 101 (Suppl.1): 13. (Inst. für Vogelforschung, Vogelwarte Helgoland, An der Vogelwarte 27, 26396 Wilhelmshaven, Germany)

Short description of strategies in Comoé Nat. Park, Ivory Coast and comparison of Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* and Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*.

Sauvage A., Rumsey S. & Rodwell S. 1998. Recurrence of Palearctic birds in the

lower Senegal river valley. *Malimbus* 20: 33–53. (23 rue Jean Moulin, 08090 Aiglemont, France)

1,460 birds of 31 Palearctic species (out of nearly 83,000 ringed) recaptured in at least one subsequent winter, 103 in 3–5 winters. For 7 species recurrence not previously proved in Africa.

Spierenburg P. 1998. Migration of swifts over Bougouni, southern Mali. *Malimbus* 20: 69–74. (BP 815, Thimpu, Bhutan)

European *Apus apus* and Little Swifts *A. affinis* at start of 1995 rainy season responding to favourable foraging after a rain front.

Stoate C. 1998. Abundance of Olivaceous Warblers *Hippolais pallida* and potential invertebrate prey in unmanaged *Acacia* woodland. *Bird Study* 45: 251–253. (Game Conservancy Trust, Fordingbridge, Hants SP6 1EF, UK)

Density significantly higher in *Acacia* woodland than grazed savannah or farmland. Invertebrates found more commonly in January than November especially in trees with climbers.

Tyler S.J. & Tyler L. 1997. Observations on the seasonal presence and moult of European Reed Warblers *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* at a site in southeast Botswana. *Ostrich* 67: 117–118. (c/o Room 106, Dept. Anim. Health, PB 0032, Gaborone, Botswana)

Summarises recent records especially 53 individuals ringed at Phakalane 1996–1997.

Yosef R. & Alon D. 1997. Do immature Palearctic Egyptian Vultures *Neophron percnopterus* remain in Africa during the northern summer? *Die Vogelwelt* 118: 285–289. (Int. Birdwatching Center in Eilat, PO Box 744, Eilat, Israel)

In Sinai and Israel juveniles were 23.5% individuals in autumn and 15.4% in spring, suggesting that few stay contra Mundy *et al.* (1992 *The Vultures of Africa*). Discrepancy caused by and complicated by there being 3 different flyways through Israel.

Migration—Afrotropical

Allan D.G. 1997. Movements of the Blue Crane *Anthropoides paradisea* (Aves: Gruidae) in South Africa as assessed by bird-atlas data and road counts. *Durban Mus. Nov.* 22: 43–52. (Durban Mus., PB 4085, Durban 4000, South Africa)

Atlas data unreliable due to confounding of seasonal changes and group sizes. Road counts show there appears to have been a change in the Cape between moving out in 1965–1966 and into Karoo and fynbos in 1988–1993.

Krüger O. 1998. Fluctuations and movements in a group of Lesser Flamingos

Phoeniconaias minor in Kyambura Game Reserve, southwest Uganda. *Scopus* 20: 33–38. (Neue Str. 25, D-33824 Werther, Germany)

Jul–Sept 1994 fluctuations.

General Biology

Botha M.C. 1998. Nesting Redwinged Starlings attack European Starling. *Promerops* 234: 10. (No address given)

Onychognathus morio killed *Sturnus vulgaris*.

Bowden C. 1998. Last chance for the Northern Bald Ibis. *World Birdwatch* 20: 12–16. (No address given)

General notes on *Geronticus eremita* in Souss-Massa Nat. Park in Morocco and the threats to its survival. c200 birds survive.

Branch B. 1998. Hatched in thatch. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (4): 48–53. (No address given)

General biology of Sociable Weaver *Philetarius socius* and its communal nest.

Diop M.S. 1998. WAOS Research Grant report: Deux espèces de calao: *Tockus erythrorhynchus* et *T. nasutus* dans la diversité aviaire des aires protégées de la Petite Côte, Sénégal. *Malimbus* 20: 66–67. (Dept. Biol. Anim. UCAD, Lab. d'Ecol. Anim. ORSTOM, BP 1386, Dakar, Senegal)

Red-billed and Grey Hornbills studied. 3 papers so far (*Malimbus* 15 and 19, *Ostrich* 67) and more in preparation.

Hampe A. 1998. Field studies on the Black Parrot *Coracopsis nigra* in western Madagascar. *Bull. ABC* 5: 108–113. (Inst. Vogelforschung, Vogelwarte Helgoland, An der Vogelwarte 21, 26386 Wilhelmshaven, Germany)

Data from 3 weeks just post breeding on activity patterns, food and foraging, acoustic communication and social behaviour.

Hawkins F., Rabenandrasana M., Virginie M.C., Manese R.O., Mulder R., Ellis E.R. & Robert R. 1998. Field observations of the Red-shouldered Vanga *Calicalicus rufocarpalis*: a newly described Malagasy endemic. *Bull. ABC* 5: 30–32. (Projet ZICOMA, BirdLife Int., BP 1074, Antananarivo 101, Madagascar)

9 singing males located. Notes on calls, behaviour, distribution and conservation of the species formally described in 1997 (*Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 117: 5–10).

Hoffmann L. 1995. Paradiesfliegenschnäpper. (German) *Lanioturdus* 28: 12–14. (Postfach 239, Otjiwarongo, Namibia)

Notes on Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis*.

Hoffmann L. 1995. Streifenschwallen. (German) *Lanioturdus* 28: 23. (Postfach 239, Otjiwarongo, Namibia)
Notes on Striped Swallow *Hirundo cucullata*.

Leon B. & Nicolson S.W. 1997. Metabolic rate and body temperature of an African sunbird, *Nectarinia chalybea*: daily rhythm and the effect of ambient temperature. *S. Afr. J. Zool.* 32: 31–36. (Dept. Zool., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa)

Lesser Double-collared Sunbird reduced its Basal Metabolic Rate by 50% at night and was 88% of value predicted by size.

Mlingwa C.O.F. 1998. Breeding and moult cycles of the Yellow-bellied Greenbul *Chlorocichla flaviventris* in coastal Tanzania. *Scopus* 20: 29–32. (Dept. Zool., Univ. Dar-es-Salaam, PO Box 35064, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania)

Both breeding and moult were seasonal. Breed mainly in short rains and avoid heaviest long rains.

Monadjem A. 1997. Measurements, moult and residency of Kurrichane Buttonquail *Turnix sylvatica* in Swaziland, captured in small mammal traps. *SAFRING News* 26: 63–65. (Univ. of Swaziland, PB 4, Kwaluseni, Swaziland)

Resident in spring 1995 but not in 1996 suggesting it is nomadic. Seems to have bred in 1995 where home ranges c1 ha. Technique used is interesting.

Njoroge P. & Launay F. 1998. Satellite tracking of Kori Bustards *Ardeotis kori* in Kenya. *Scopus* 20: 19–22. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

2 individuals, one of which lasted 6 months, tracked on Athi-Kapiti plains. Stayed within 10 km of capture except for 2 large one-off movements.

Oatley T.B. 1998. The thrush in your garden. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (4): 30–31. (No address given)

Some general notes on Olive Thrush *Turdus olivaceus* and Kurrichane Thrush *T. libonyanus*

Osborne T. & Osborne L. 1998. Home on the range. Kori Bustard. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (3): 18. (PO Box 22, Okaukuejo, via Outjo, Namibia)

Brief notes on an ongoing study of *Ardeotis kori* based in Etosha Nat. Park.

Petrie S. 1998. Molt patterns of non-breeding White-faced Whistling Ducks in South Africa. *Auk* 115: 774–780. (Long Point Waterfowl and Wetlands Res. Fund, c/o Bird Studies Canada, PO Box 160, Port Rowan, Ontario N0E 1M0, Canada)

Detailed notes on moult of *Dendrocygna viduata* over winter period in KwaZulu-Natal.

Rabarisoa R., Watson R.T., Thorstrom R. & Berkelman J. 1997. Status of the Madagascar Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus vociferoides* in 1995. *Ostrich* 68: 8–12. (Peregrine Fund's Madagascar Project, BP 4113, Antananarivo (101), Madagascar)

99 pairs found 1991–1995 in an area of W and NW Madagascar, about twice previous estimate for the area. Recommends continued monitoring.

Ramos J.A. 1998. Biometrics, weights, breeding and moulting seasons of passerines in an Azores cloud forest. *Ringling & Migration* 19: 17–22. (Edward Grey Inst., Dept. Zool., South Parks Rd, Oxford OX1 3PS, UK)

For 4 species on San Miguel Island. All bred Jun–Aug and started moult in Aug. Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* showed sexual dimorphism in bill measurements.

Ryan P.G. & Sinclair I. 1998. Somali Starling *Oryzobrythopsis blythii* in south-central Ethiopia. *Bull. ABC* 5: 56–57. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Some notes on distribution, voice and food.

Safford R. 1998. Photospot: blue pigeons. *Bull. ABC* 5: 133–135. (Royal Holloway Inst. for Env. Res., Huntersdale, Callow Hill, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4LN, UK)

Brief notes accompanying photographs of the 3 Indian Ocean species of *Alectroenas*.

Tamungang A.S. 1998. WAOS Research Grant report: habitat utilisation by the African Grey Parrot *Psittacus erithacus* in Korup National Park and environs, Cameroon. *Malimbis* 20: 65–66. (Dept. Wildl. & Fisheries Mgmt, Univ. Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria)

Abstract of Ph.D. thesis. Parrots affected by socio-economic activities and conservation must include local population.

Tarboton W. 1998. The Crimson-breasted Shrike—scarlet skulker. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (2): 30–35. (No address given)

A general account of the biology of *Laniarius atrococcineus* including notes on other gonoleks.

Taylor B. 1998. The Mabira Banshee—a mystery no more. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (3): 56–61. (No address given)

General article on biology (especially breeding) of Buff-spotted Flufftail *Sarothrura elegans* from author's study over 2 years in KwaZulu-Natal.

Underhill L.G. & Underhill G.D. 1997. Primary moult, mass and movements of the Rock Pigeon *Columba guinea* in the

Western Cape, South Africa. *Ostrich* 67: 86–89. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Take 7.2 months to complete primary moult, mean mass 344g and movements from Cape Peninsular mountains to wheat-growing areas to NE are suggested.

Watson R. 1998. The plight of the Fish Eagle—people, eagles and wetlands' conservation in Madagascar. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (4): 34–41. (No address given)

Some general notes and including rescuing and releasing chicks to help conservation of *Haliaeetus vociferoides*.

Ecology

Allan D. & Young D. 1998. CAR in the Western Cape—the fruits begin to ripen. *Bird Numbers* 7 (2): 19–21. (Avian Dept. Stat. Sci. Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Notes from Co-ordinated Avifaunal Roadcounts on 4 species having seasonal pattern.

Allsop R. & Perlstein P. 1998. Observations on Wattled Cranes in the Okavango Delta April 1998 with particular reference to the influence of flood waters. *Babbler* 33: 22–25. (Tsetse Control Div., DAHP, PO Box 14, Maun, Botswana)

Butoramus carunculatus noted casually while surveying from the air. Flocks up to 600 birds found especially at head of main flood.

Barnes E., Davies B. & Harrison J.A. 1998. Ecological problems at Wildevölvlei, Kommetjie. *Bird Numbers* 7 (2): 12–14. (No address given)

Data from Co-ordinated Waterbird Counts used to monitor effects of apparent herbicide use and subsequent managed recovery.

Bennun L., Pomeroy D. & Turner D. 1998. Letter to the editor. Kruger and Johnson, Comment article 138: 546–567. *Ibis* 140: 700. (EANHS, PO Box 44486, Nairobi, Kenya)

Casts doubt on conclusions of this article in *Ibis* vol.138 due to misidentified species and the proportion of birds unidentified to species level.

Biddau L. & Fasola M. 1998. Variability of wintering waders at a roost in coastal Kenya. *Scopus* 20: 23–28. (c/o Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Numbers of 14 species assessed at one roost site over 14 counts from late Dec 1994 to mid-Feb 1995.

Botha M. 1998. Roosting European Swallows in huge flock. *Promerops* 233: 13. (No address given)]

Hirundo rustica in Feb at Onrus River lagoon containing several tens of thousands.

Brown C.J., Robson N. & Yates M. 1995. Distribution, status and first breeding record of Grey Kestrel in southern Africa. *J. Afr. Rep. Biol.* 10: 52–57. (Direct. of Env. Affairs, PB 13306, Windhoek, Namibia)

Namibian resident population of *Falco ardosiacus* estimated at 39 pairs. Nest found in Sept 1993 and notes on breeding and hunting behaviour.

Carr P. 1998. Expedition report Diego Survey 97, 4–18 August 1997. *Sea Swallow* 47: 9–22. (RMB Chivener, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 1AZ, UK)

Census work on Diego Garcia, in the Chagos Archipelago, Anniversary Island and 3 offshore islets concentrating on breeding seabirds. Effects of humans assessed.

Cordeiro N.J. 1998. A preliminary survey of the montane avifauna of Mt Nilo, East Usambaras, Tanzania. *Scopus* 20: 1–18. (Dept. Biol. Sci. (M C 066), Room 3250AP SES, Univ. Illinois at Chicago, 845 W Taylor St., Chicago, IL 60607-7060, USA)

Nearly 6,000 ha reserve is highest in range. Contains several restricted range species and included the first record for 60 years of Tanzanian Mountain Weaver *Ploceus nicollis*.

Crawford R.J.M., Nel D.C., Williams A.J. & Scott A. 1997. Seasonal patterns of abundance of Kelp Gulls *Larus dominicanus* at breeding and non-breeding localities in southern Africa. *Ostrich* 68: 38–41. (Sea Fisheries Res. Inst., PB X2, Rogge Bay 8012, South Africa)

At Malgas Island, Western Cape Province, eggs found Oct–Jan, peak Nov. Numbers at other sites counted regularly.

Cresswell W., Irwin M., Jensen M., Mee A., Mellanby R., McKean M. & Milne L. 1997. Population estimates and distribution changes of landbirds on Silhouette Island, Seychelles. *Ostrich* 67: 50–57. (Div. of Env. & Evol. Biol., IBLS, Glasgow Univ., Glasgow G12 8QQ, UK)

Density and presence in 4-ha squares recorded in Aug 1996 and compared to Jan 1979 survey. Indigenous species are doing well and introduced species have declined perhaps due to reduction in human population although there may also be seasonal differences.

Davies A.A. & Maclean G.L. 1997. Avian response to landscape elements (tesserae) in an upland grassland habitat. *Ostrich* 68: 1–7. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. of Natal, PB X01, Scottsville 3209, South Africa)

Abundance, occupancy and diversity measured. Occupancy highest in least disturbed (hill-grass) but abundance and diversity varied independently of the naturally disturbed exotic tesserae.

Delestrade A. 1998. Distribution and status of the Ethiopian population of the Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax baileyi*. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 118: 101–105. (Centre de Recherches sur les Ecosystèmes d'Altitude (CREA), 400 Route du Tour, Montroc, 74400 Chamonix, France)

Found in 4 areas, 1,000–1,300 birds is estimated total population.

Dranzoa C. 1997. The survival of understorey birds in the Tropical Rainforest of Ziika, Uganda. *Ostrich* 67: 68–71. (Makerere Univ. PO Box 7298, Kampala, Uganda)

Survival rates of several species found to be higher than expected. Data from ringing in 1970–1972, 1988–1989 and 1993–1994 in this 12 ha forest fragment on shore of Lake Victoria.

Elwell N. 1998. African Black Oystercatcher breeding survey on the south coast. *Bird Numbers* 7 (1): 21. (No address given)

Survey of *Haematopus moquini* along short bit of coast in Cape area found 20 eggs leading to 13 fledged chicks.

Feare C.J., Gill E.L., Carty P., Carty H.E., & Ayrton V.J. 1997. Habitat use by Seychelles Sooty Terns *Sterna fuscata* and implications for colony management. *Biol. Conserv.* 81: 69–76. (Dept. Pure & Appl. Biol., Univ. Leeds, Leeds, W Yorks LS2 9JT, UK)

Nest densities were greatest in areas with a vegetation cover of 30–50%, usually dominated by *Portulaca oleracea*. Vegetation affects nest site choice, and management could increase the populations and their reproductive output. Can also benefit rarer and more vulnerable seabirds and turtles that share nesting islands.

Frauenknecht B. 1998. Chaffinch—a hundred not out. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (2): 14. (No address given)

Fringilla coelebs estimate is 1,500–2,000 birds after introduction to Cape Peninsular in 1898.

Hamidi S., Maamri A., Chavanon G., Bouariche B. & Berrahon A. 1997. Évolution récente des populations de rapaces diurnes dans la région d'Oujda-Jerrada-Berkane (NE du Maroc) pour la période 92–95. *Porphyrio* 9: 13–27. (Lab. d'Hydrobiol. et Écol. Gén., Fac. des Sci., Univ. Mohammed Premier, BP 524, Oujda, Morocco)

14 raptor species found including Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*.

van der Have T.M., Bacetti N., Keijl G.O. & Zenatello M. (Eds) 1997. Waterbirds in Kneiss, Tunisia, February 1994. *WTWO report* 54: 140pp. (c/o Driebergsweg 16c, 3708 JB Zeist, The Netherlands)

Surveyed 31 wetlands and counted and trapped in Gulf of Gabes. Over 130,000 waterbirds counted in Kneiss area, over 1,000 waders caught and ringed. No Slender-billed Curlews *Numenius tenuirostris* and 62 colour-ringed Greater Flamingos *Phoenicopterus ruber* found.

Herremans M. 1998. Monitoring the world population of the Lesser Grey Shrike (*Lanius minor*) on the non-breeding grounds in southern Africa. *J. Orn.* 139: 485–493. (Royal Mus. for Cent. Afr., Dept. Zool., Lecuwensesteenweg 13, B-3080 Tervuren, Belgium)

Declined considerably over last 200 years. Estimate is 6.1 million birds in mid-1990s.

Hino T. 1998. Mutualistic and commensal organisation of avian mixed-species foraging flocks in a forest of western Madagascar. *J. Avian Biol.* 29: 17–24. (Forestry and Forest Products Res. Inst., Kansai Res. Centre, Momoyama, Fushimi, Kyoto 612, Japan)

Six of seven species increased feeding rates and/or changed techniques when foraging in mixed-species flocks than when alone.

Hustler K. 1997. The status, breeding and parasitism of the White-rumped Babbler in Zimbabwe. *Honeyguide* 43: 211–213. (PO Box 159, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe)

Various breeding records, status of habitat of *Turdoides leucopygius* and probable parasitism by Striped Cuckoo *Clamator leucallantii*.

Kemp A.C., Benn G.A. & Begg K.S. 1998. Geographical analysis of vegetation structure for four large bird species in the Kruger National Park, South Africa. *Bird Conserv. International* 8: 89–108. (Dept. Birds, Transvaal Mus., PO Box 43, Pretoria 0001, South Africa)

Correlated vegetation structure with sightings and nest sites of Kori Bustard *Ardeotis kori*, Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus*, Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotus* and Southern Ground Hombill *Bucorvus leadbeateri*. Found method predictive and testable and has application for conservation of other sparse species.

Komdeur J., Kappe A. & van der Zande L. 1998. Influence of population isolation on genetic variation and demography in Seychelles Warblers: a field experiment. *Anim. Conserv.* 1: 203–212. (Zool. Lab., Univ. Groningen, PO Box 14, 9750 AA Haren, The Netherlands)

Acrocephalus secbellensis has low genetic variation and some inbreeding may have occurred. On Cousin only produces 0.28 yearlings per breeding pair but much more when translocated to Aride probably due to food supply.

Kopij G. 1996. Distribution and abundance of diurnal raptors in the cold highveld grasslands of South Africa. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 11: 7–10. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Free State, PO Box 339, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa)

56 territories of 10 species in 1,000 km² in Rooiberge, eastern Free State in Jul–Oct 1994.

Kopij G. 1997. Quantitative studies on birds of the Willem Pretorius Game Reserve, Free State Province. *Mirafra* 14(3/4): 17–21. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Free State, PO Box 339, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa)

Estimates relative abundance of breeding birds in reserve dominated by a large dam.

Kopij G. 1997. Birds of Bethlehem, Free State Province, South Africa. *Mirafra* 14(3/4): 5–12. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Free State, PO Box 339, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa)

1,000 ha surveyed consisting of town, suburbs, golf course and nature reserve.

Kopij G. 1997. Distribution, numbers and habitat preference of the Spotted Dikkop *Burhinus capensis* in Bloemfontein. *Mirafra* 14(3/4): 4–5. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Free State, PO Box 339, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa)

15 breeding pairs noted, half on school playing fields.

Kruger S.C. & Lawes M.J. 1997. Edge effects at an induced forest-grassland boundary: forest birds in the Ongoye Forest Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal. *S. Afr. J. Zool.* 32: 82–91. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Natal, PB X01, Scottsville 3209, South Africa)

On plots with similar habitat structure and complexity there were no statistical differences in species diversity or guild composition between edge and forest interior but greater species turnover at edge. Latter due to firewood removal, disturbance and soil compaction by cattle.

Little R.M. & Crowe T.M. 1998. Habitat fragmentation limits the distribution of Cape Francolin *Francolinus capensis* on deciduous fruit farms in South Africa. *Afr. J. Ecol.* 36: 140–147. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Density much higher in fynbos than orchards. Therefore connectivity, size and placement of orchards very important for distribution in fruit farm area.

Lloyd P., Craig A.J.F.K., Hulley P.E., Faadiel Essop M., Bloomer P. & Crowe T.M. 1997. Ecology and genetics of hybrid zones in the southern African *Pycnonotus* bulbul species complex. *Ostrich* 67: 90–96. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Black-eyed *P. barbatus*, Cape *P. capensis* and Red-eyed Bulbuls *P. nigricans* extensively hybridise along parapatric boundaries but zones are very narrow. Compatible with the bounded-hybrid-superiority model.

Lloyd P. & Palmer A.R. 1998. Abiotic factors as predictors of distribution in southern African bulbuls. *Avuk* 115: 404–411. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Distribution of Black-eyed *Pycnonotus barbatus*, Red-eyed *P. nigricans* and Cape Bulbuls *P. capensis*, which are parapatric to locally sympatric, related to 6 environmental variables by discriminant analysis. Analysis correctly classified for 89% of 1,426 squares.

Marr T., Newell D. & Porter R. 1998. Seabirds off Senegal, west Africa. *Bull. ABC* 5: 22–29. (Two Hoots, Old Hall Farm Barns, Cley-next-the-Sea, Norfolk NR25 7SF, UK)

Notes on the status of various species especially autumn passage off the westernmost point of mainland Africa.

Martin R. 1998. Speckled Mousebird: decline in numbers in Somerset West? *Promerops* 232: 9. (No address given)
Colius striatus has decreased while White-backed Mousebird *C. colius* seems to have replaced it.

Masterson A.N.B. 1998. Thoughts on Swamp Nightjars. *Honeyguide* 44: 29–30. (3 Kent Ave., Avondale, Harare, Zimbabwe)
Some notes on *Caprimulgus natalensis*.

Matiku P., Simiyu A. & Bennun L. 1998. Distribution, densities and habitat preferences of three gamebird species on Imbirikani group ranch, Kajiado. *Nat. Mus. Kenya Centre for Biodiversity reports: ornithology* no. 29: 1–6. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Yellow-necked Spurfowl *Francolinus leucoscepus*, Crested Francolin *F. sephaena* and Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris* assessed in *Acacia-Commiphora* bush, wooded grassland and open grassland. Many found.

Njoroge P., Bennun L. & Lens L. 1998. Habitat use by the globally endangered Hinde's Babbler *Turdoides hindei* and its sympatric relative, the Northern Pied Babbler *T. hypoleucus*. *Bird Conserv.*

International 8: 59–65. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Former dependent on *Lantana* thickets and therefore much more restricted. Study in Kirinyaga District, central Kenya.

Petrie S.A. & Petrie V. 1998. Activity budget of White-faced Whistling-ducks during winter and spring in northern KwaZulu-Natal. *J. Wildl. Mgmt.* 62: 1119–1126. (Center for Water in the Environment, Univ. of Witwatersrand, PB 3, Wits 2050, Johannesburg, South Africa)

Dendrocygna viduata spent half time foraging mostly at night and more when moulting.

Plumtre A.J. 1997. Shifting cultivation along the Trans-African Highway and its impact on the understorey bird community in the Itwi Forest, Zaire. *Bird Conserv. International* 7: 317–329. (Wildl. Cons. Soc., 185th St. and Southern Blvd. Bronx, NY 10460, USA)

Shifting cultivation has more severe effect than selective logging in Uganda or Malaysia. Shift from insectivore to more frugivore and nectarivore. At least 333 bird species recorded in Itwi to date.

Rockingham-Gill D.V. 1997. The African Waterfowl Census—1996. *Honeyguide* 43: 248–251. (4 Fernleigh Rd, PO Borrowdale, Harare, Zimbabwe)

Some brief notes from the co-ordinator.

Ruiz X., González-Solís J., Oro D. & Jover L. 1998. Body size variation in Audouin's Gull *Larus audouinii*, a density dependent effect? *Ibis* 140: 431–438. (Dept. Biol. Anim., Univ. Barcelona, Avgda. Diagonal 645, 08028 Barcelona, Spain)

Significant decrease in linear measurements (especially of males) of breeding adults at colony on Chafarinas Islands (45 km off Moroccan coast) over 13 years seems to be due to increased numbers and decreased food supply.

Ryan P. 1998. Commuting Cormorants. *Promerops* 234: 9. (No address given)
Phalacrocorax africanus feed at Wildevoelvlei and roost at Strandfontein (ca 8 km away) alternating several times a day.

Simmons R. 1998. World record terns at Sandwich? *Lanioturdus* 31 (1): 23–26. (Min. of Envir. & Tourism, PB 13306, Windhoek, Namibia)

Sandwich Harbour, c50 km north of Walvis Bay, holds large numbers (over half a million in Jan) of waterbirds.

Simmons R.E., Cordes I. & Braby R. 1998. Latitudinal trends, population size and habitat preferences of the Damara Tern *Sterna balaenarum* on Namibia's desert coast. *Ibis* 140: 439–445. (Orn.

Section, Ministry of Envir. & Tourism, PB 13306, Windhoek, Namibia)

Global population estimated at 13,500 adults with northern birds mainly nesting on gravel plains and southern ones on saltpans.

Tree T. 1998. A waterfowl count from the Gamtoos Mouth. *Bee Eater* 49: 18–19. (No address given)

Over 1,300 birds seen.

Triplet P. & Yésou P. 1998. Mid-winter counts of waders in the Senegal delta, West Africa, 1993–1997. *WSG Bull.* 85: 66–73. (CNERA Avifaune Migratrice, Office Nat. de la Chasse, 53 rue Russeil, F-44000 Nantes, France)

41 species recorded in Januaries of 1993–1997, for 6 the site is of international importance. Discusses details of individual sites and especially Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* and Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*.

Whitney K.D. & Smith T.B. 1998. Habitat use and resource tracking by African *Ceratogymna* hornbills: implications for seed dispersal and forest conservation. *Anim. Conserv.* 1: 107–117. (Dept. Biol., San Francisco State Univ., 1600 Holloway Ave., San Francisco, CA 94132, USA)

3 species of hornbill provide dispersal for 50 species of trees and lianas, 2 species varied 4-fold and 12-fold respectively over year in one place and similar in 2 areas 22 km apart. These species are not resident.

Whittington-Jones C.A. 1997. Apparent range expansion of the Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea* in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. *Ostrich* 67: 97–103. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Rhodes Univ., Grahamstown 6140, South Africa)

South African atlas data and literature review show substantial expansion over last century. May be increased search effort but also agricultural practice changes may be cause.

Wolff W.J. (ed) 1998. The end of the east-atlantic flyway. Waders in Guinea-Bissau. *WTWO report* 39: 1–93. (c/o Driebergsweg 16c, 3708 JB Zeist, The Netherlands)

Estimates c700,000 waders in coastal area. Many mensural data given.

Woodworth B.L., Farm B.P., Mufungo C., Borner M. & Ole Kuwai J. 1997. A photographic census of flamingos in the Rift Valley lakes of Tanzania. *Afr. J. Ecol.* 35: 326–334. (Tanzania Wildlife Conservation Monitoring, Frankfurt Zool. Soc., PO Box 3134, Arusha, Tanzania)

Simultaneous estimates of 89,300 Lesser *Phoenicopterus minor* and 13,600 Greater Flamingo *P. ruber* in northern Tanzania, and 1.9 million (both species combined) in southern Kenya.

Zwarts L., van der Kamp J., Overdijk O., van Spanje T., Veldkamp R., West R. & Wright M. 1998. Wader count of the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania, in January/February 1997. *WSG Bull.* 86: 53–69. (RWS-RIZA, PO Box 17, 8200 AA Lelystad, The Netherlands)

Over 2 million waders counted and confirmed decline but not the scale reported earlier or in all species. Recommend that complete counts is only suitable way to monitor the area.

Zwarts L., van der Kamp J., Overdijk O., van Spanje T., Veldkamp R., West R. & Wright M. 1998. Wader count of the Baie d'Arguin, Mauritania, in February 1997. *WSG Bull.* 86: 70–73. (RWS-RIZA, PO Box 17, 8200 AA Lelystad, The Netherlands)

85,000 birds with 79,000 waders in this isolated bay in northern part of Banc d'Arguin Nat. Park.

van Zyl A.J., Amutete G. & Newton S.T. 1998. Why are Common Kestrels *Falco tinnunculus rufescens* scarce? Clues from Lake Baringo. *Scopus* 20: 39–42. (Dept. Birds, Transvaal Mus., PO Box 413, Pretoria, South Africa)

Suggests that an area with good nesting habitat and food supply has lower than expected density. Predation pressure may be high.

Conservation

Bennun L. & Njoroge P. 1996. Birds to watch in East Africa: a preliminary red data list. *Nat. Mus. Kenya Centre for Biodiversity Res. Reports: Ornithology* no.23: 1–16. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

An initial list with criteria based on wide consultation Sept 1995–Mar 1996.

Brooks T., Lens L., Barnes J., Barnes R., Kihuria J.K. & Wilder C. 1998. The conservation status of the forest birds of the Taita Hills, Kenya. *Bird Conserv. International* 8: 119–139. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

3 endemics among 47 forest species surveyed in Jul–Aug 1996. General recommendations made for conservation of area.

Cooper J. 1998. Seabirds and longline fishing: a global problem being addressed. *Bird Numbers* 7 (2): 5–6. (No address given)

Notes about state of problem.

Cordeiro N.J. & Githuru M. 1998. Avifauna of the *Brachylaena* woodlands in the Usambara lowlands. *Bull. ABC* 5: 13–16. (Biol. Sci., (M/C066), Univ. Illinois at Chicago, 845 W. Taylor St., Chicago, IL 60607-7060, USA)

Detailed notes on 1 Forest Reserve and 3 proposed reserves which may qualify as Important Bird Areas.

Esquivias J.A.T. & Barron A.A.-Z. 1997. L'Erlsmature rousse (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) au Maroc. *Porphyrio* 9: 1–12. (Apdo. no.3059, 14080 Cordoba, Spain)

A review of status and problems posed by Ruddy Ducks in Morocco.

Evans T.D. 1997. Preliminary estimates of population density of Sokoke Scops Owl *Otus ireneae* Ripley in the East Usambara lowlands, Tanzania. *Afr. J. Ecol.* 35: 303–311. (11a Yeoman Lane, Bearsted, Maidstone, Kent ME14 4BX, UK)

Densities of recently discovered population were 3–4 territories km² (less logged site) and <1.5 (heavily logged site), lower than estimate (>7) for the only other locality for the species.

Ezealor A.U. & Giles R.H. Jr. 1998. Wintering Ruffs *Philomachus pugnax* are not pests of rice *Oryza* spp. in Nigeria's sahelian wetlands. *Wildfowl* 48: 202–209. (RHG at Dept. Fisheries and Wildl. Sci., Virginia Polytechnic Inst. and State Univ., Blacksburg, VA 24061-0321, USA)

Rice was 30–38% of diet of the Ruffs but most was waste and residues from harvesting and threshing. Depth of water and invertebrate presence made depredation unlikely in early winter period.

Fox V.E., Lindeque P.M., Simmons R.E., Berry H.H., Brain C. & Braby R. 1997. Flamingo 'rescue' in Etosha National Park, 1994: technical, conservation and economic considerations. *Ostrich* 67: 72–76. (Etosha Ecol. Inst., Min. of Env. & Tourism, PO Ojkaukejo via Outjo, Namibia)

144 Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber* chicks rescued from drying out Etosha Pan. Half released at Walvis Bay but suffered high mortality probably mainly due to predators.

Harrison J.A. & Navarro R.A. 1998. Is size important? Preliminary indications from the Birds in Reserves Project for the woodland biome. *Bird Numbers* 7 (2): 28–30. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Many woodland biome species seem to prefer larger protected areas.

Hart J.A. & Upoki A. 1997. Distribution and conservation status of Congo Peafowl *Afropavo congensis* in eastern Zaire. *Bird Conserv. International* 7: 295–316. (Wildl. Conserv. Soc., 2300 Southern Blvd, Bronx, NY 10460, USA)

Locally common at only 12 sites but found at another 37. Various of the usual threats noted including the Rwandan

refugee incursion of 1994. The Maiko Nat. Park is place where survival is best assured.

van der Have T.M. Keijl G.O. & Ruiters P.S. 1998. Searching for Slender-billed Curlews in Tunisia, February–March 1994. *WSG Bull.* 86: 36–39. (Furkabaan 674, 3524 ZL Utrecht, The Netherlands)

No sign of *Numenius tenuirostris* in 31 wetlands.

Herremans M. 1998. Conservation status of birds in Botswana in relation to land use. *Biol. Conserv.* 86: 139–160. (Royal Mus. for Central Africa, Dept. Zool., Leuvensesteenweg 13, B-3080 Tervuren, Belgium)

Differences in reporting rates for atlas from major land use categories used to look at status of 12 ecological groups of birds. Larger birds preferred protected areas but thornveld birds much more frequent in unprotected.

Hivekovics A. & Palatitz. 1998. Summary of a study by Hungarian ornithologists on Mount Cameroon. *Bull. ABC* 5: 97–100. (Hungarian Action Team for the Conserv. of Nat., Csengery utca 11.11/201, H-1125 Budapest, Hungary)

Reports from 5 areas on the mountain in 1996 not previously explored.

Howard P.C., Viskanic P., Davenport T.R.B., Kigenyi F.W., Baltzer M., Dickinson C.J., Lwanga J.S., Matthews R.A. & Balmford A. 1998.

Complementarity and the use of indicator groups for reserve selection in Uganda. *Nature* 394: 472–475. (AB at Dept. Anim. & Plant Sci., Univ. Sheffield, Sheffield S10 2TN, UK)

Little spatial congruence in species richness of woody plants, large moths, butterflies, birds and small mammals found across 50 Ugandan forests. However sets of priority forests for conservation on basis of single taxa did pick up most of important areas as conservation importance incorporates species richness as well as those which best complement other sites.

Howard V. 1997. Back from the brink. A Mauritian experience. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 2 (6): 43–48. (No address given)

Notes from a visit to Black River Gorges and Pigeon Wood in Mauritius describing the conservation story.

Kairu J.K. 1996. Heavy metal residues in birds of Lake Nakuru, Kenya. *Afr. J. Ecol.* 34: 397–400. (Dept. Wildl., Mgmt, Moi Univ., PO Box 1125, Eldoret, Kenya)
Concentrations in White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus*, Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* and Lesser Flamingo *Phoenicopterus minor* remained at low levels over past 2 decades despite increased industrial and agricultural activities.

McCann K. 1997. Crane link. A biannual newsletter of the South African Crane Working Group. No.2—Nov 1997. (Endangered Wildl. Trust, PB X11, Parkview 2122, South Africa)

Contains notes on status of several species especially Wattled Crane *Bugeranus carunculatus* and in several countries in eastern and southern Africa.

Nasirwa O. & Njoroge P. 1996. In search of the Shoebill *Balaeniceps rex*: a survey of Kimondi Swamp, North Nandi, Kenya. *Nat. Mus. Kenya Centre for Biodiversity Res. Reports: Ornithology* no.25: 1–6. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

None found in 10 km² swamp in Jul 1996 but local people know it to be seen there periodically. List of species seen also included.

Nasirwa O. & Njoroge P. 1996. Status of Blue Swallow *Hirundo atrocaerulea* sites in Busia and Suba Districts, Kenya. *Nat. Mus. Kenya Centre for Biodiversity Res. Reports: Ornithology* no.26: 1–6. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

No birds found in 3-day survey in Jul 1996 in potential sites in Busia or 1 day in Ruma Nat. Park in Suba. These include Mungatsi, an area of flooded grassland under severe threat of conversion to agriculture. List of species seen also included.

Nasirwa O. & Njoroge P. 1997. What's happening to the Blue Swallow sites in Busia and Suba Districts, Kenya? *Bull. EANHIS* 27: 4–6. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

None found in surveys even at Mungatsi where recorded roosting regularly before but now under threat of cultivation.

Njoroge P. 1995. The validity of open seasons for sandgrouse shooting in Kenya: analysis of an 11-year data set. *Nat. Mus. Kenya Centre for Biodiversity Res. Reports: Ornithology* no.21: 1–13. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Data on gonadal condition of 2,030 Black-faced *Pterocles decoratus* and 879 Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse *P. exustus* showed considerable annual variation in breeding season but breeding mainly in dry season following rains.

Njoroge P., Lens L., Sutton J. & Bennun L. 1997. The validity of open seasons for sandgrouse shooting: analysis of an 11-year data set from Kenya. *Afr. J. Ecol.* 35: 186–193. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Shooting season in southern Kenya overlapped with main breeding period of Black-faced *Pterocles decoratus* and

Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse *P. exustus*, but was appropriate for other areas and other gamebird species in most years.

Ryan P.G. 1998. The taxonomic and conservation status of the Spectacled Petrel *Procellaria conspicillata*. *Bird Conserv. International* 8: 223–235. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Concludes it is a species not a subspecies of White-chinned *P. aequinoctialis*. Despite estimated in early 1980s to be only 1,000 pairs on only breeding site on Inaccessible Island (Tristan group) 100s have been killed in long-line fisheries. Survey of breeding is needed.

Safford R.J. & Jones C.G. 1997. Did organochlorine pesticide use cause declines in Mauritian forest birds? *Biodiversity and Conservation* 6: 1445–1451. (Royal Holloway Inst. for Envir. Res., Huntersdale, Callow Hill, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4LN, UK)

Circumstantial evidence supports suggestion that organochlorine pesticide use in 1950s and 1960s caused population declines and local extinctions in endemic Mauritius Kestrel *Falco punctatus* and Mauritius Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina typica*.

Safford R.J. 1997. The destruction of source and sink habitats in the decline of the Mauritius Fody, *Foudia rubra*, an island-endemic bird. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 6: 513–527. (Royal Holloway Inst. for Envir. Res., Huntersdale, Callow Hill, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4LN, UK)

Population structured as 5 subpopulations; 4 were relicts, left by habitat destruction, from a time when distribution was more extensive; no evidence for metapopulation. Unexpectedly extreme declines following native forest clearance explained by destruction of source areas upon which adjacent, intact sink areas depended.

Safford R.J. & Jones C. 1998. Strategies for land-bird conservation on Mauritius. *Conserv. Biol.* 12: 169–176. (Royal Holloway Inst. for Env. Res., Huntersdale, Callow Hill, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4LN, UK)

Rehabilitation of native vegetation necessary but can only be basis. Marooning populations on small islands solves predator problem but leaves them liable to catastrophes. Proposes also that planting and managing exotic plants in mainland habitats can also help considerably.

Shah N.J. 1998. BirdLife in the Seychelles ... 30 years of achievement. *World Birdwatch* 20: 12–15. (No address given)

Brief history of BirdLife involvement in Seychelles with special notes on paradise flycatcher *Terpsiphone corvina*, magpie-

robin *Copsychus sechellarum* and Cousin Island.

Shiferaw F. 1997. Deaths of flamingos in the Rift Valley Lakes of Ethiopia. *Eth. Wildl. & NWS newsletter July-Sept 1997*: 6-7. (No address given)

Nearly 7,000 deaths of Greater *Phoenicopterus ruber* and Lesser Flamingos *P. minor* occurred on Lakes Green, Chitu, Shala and Abijata in Oct 1995 probably due to algal blooms.

Thorsen M. & Jones C. 1998. The conservation status of Echo Parakeet *Psittacula eques* of Mauritius. *Bull. ABC* 5: 122-126. (159B Ocean View Rd, Mt Maunganui, New Zealand)

Recently population is increasing with around 90 birds now in wild. Reviews current conservation methods and threats to species.

Triplet P. & Yésou P. 1997. Contrôle de l'inondation dans le delta du Sénégal: les anatidés s'adaptent-ils aux nouvelles situations environnementales? *Écologie* 28: 351-363. (Off. Nat. de la Chasse, 53 rue Russeil, F-44000 Nantes, France)

Dyking of delta and river dam have modified wetlands and their use. 3 Afrotropical and 2 Palearctic duck species continue to use it heavily. Others have changed. Entire lower valley must be considered in conservation measures and governments given means to implement.

Underhill L. 1998. Jackass Penguins—monitoring a threatened species. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (4): 21. (No address given)

Monitoring of *Spheniscus demersus* shows a high survival of birds cleaned after oiling in June 1994.

Verdoorn G. 1996. The conservation of birds of prey in South Africa. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 11: 3-6. (PO Box 72155, Parkview 2122, South Africa)

Summary of work and projects.

Watson J. 1998. Battle for the dunes—'east coast' Damara Terns on the Alexandria Coastal Dunefield. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (2): 56-59. (No address given)

Sterna balaenarum is having problems with 4-wheel-drive vehicles. Some notes on the 15-20 pairs of birds present.

Whittington P.A. 1998. Return of the rainbow penguins. *Bird Numbers* 7 (2): 7. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Notes about releases of African Penguins *Spheniscus demersus* after oil spill in May 1998 in Cape Town Harbour.

Behaviour and Voice

Brown G. 1998. Flycatcher walking on water. *Bee Eater* 49: 16. (No address given)
African Paradise Flycatchers *Terpsiphone viridis* landed on water to take insects.

Cohen C. 1997. Blackshouldered Kites roosting. *Promerops* 230: 11. (No address given)

About 40 *Elanus caeruleus* in palm tree in Apr 1997 near Langebaan.

Compion S. 1997. Redwinged Starling tossing Rock Pigeon egg. *Promerops* 230: 10. (No address given)

Oncycognathus morio took and dropped egg of *Columba guinea* but did not eat it.

Edwards E.A. 1998. European Hobby calling in winter quarters. *Honeyguide* 44: 28. (Clent Farm, PO Box 430, Chinhoyi, Zimbabwe)

1 or 2 of flock of 5 *Falco subbuteo* calling continuously for 15 mins.

Horne J.F.M. & Short L.L. 1998. A case of 'song-capture': Rufous-naped Lark uses nightjar song in place of own song. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 118: 153-158. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Mirafra africana used song of Montane Nightjar *Caprimulgus poliocephalus* near Lake Baringo in central Kenya.

Maciver M. 1998. Unusual preening behaviour between species. *Promerops* 232: 9. (No address given)

Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus* had its head preened by Cape White-eye *Zosterops pallidus*.

Ruggiero R.G. & Evers H.E. 1998. Bird-mammal associations in forest openings of northern Congo (Brazzaville). *Afr. J. Ecol.* 36: 183-193. (Wildl. Conserv. Soc., 185th St and Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10460, USA)

In one opening 5 bird species used large terrestrial mammals to flush prey, 2 species used aquatic mammals to expose prey and one ate ectoparasites. 10 species directly benefit and others use such as dung.

Shaw J.R. 1998. Bird behaviour during a total eclipse of the moon. *Honeyguide* 44: 33. (12 Colne Cres., PO Chisipite, Harare, Zimbabwe)

Several species stopped calling and moving and started again when eclipse over.

Steyn P. 1998. Roosting and bathing habits of the Cape Sugarbird. *Promerops* 232: 10. (No address given)

An addition to article in *Africa—Birds & Birding* 2 (4) on *Promerops cafer*.

Taylor I. 1997. Redfaced Mousebirds. *Promerops* 231: 8-9. (No address given)

A pair of *Urocolius indicus* jumped up and down on a twig followed by mating.

Van Zyl A.J. & Newton S.T. 1996. Flocking of Greater Kestrels and Rock Kestrels during the non-breeding season. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 11: 18-19. (Dept. Birds, Transvaal Mus., PO Box 413, Pretoria 0001, South Africa)

Note on movement of mixed flock of 12 *Falco rupicoloides* and *F. tinnunculus* 40 km south of Ghanzi in Botswana in Jul 1996.

Food and Feeding Behaviour

Badenhorst A. & Kerley G.I.H. 1996. Seasonal variation in the diet of common quail *Coturnix coturnix* in the eastern Cape. *S. Afr. J. Zool.* 31: 159-161. (Terrestrial Ecol. Res. Unit, Dept Zool., Univ. Port Elizabeth, PO Box 1600, Port Elizabeth 6000, South Africa)

175 crops sampled over a year showed insect consumption increased during breeding season. Main seeds were of forbs of cultivated and fallow fields.

Barone R. & Trujillo D. 1997. Premières données de prédation sur lézard *Gallotia galloti* par l'épervier d'Europe *Accipiter nisus* à Tenerife (Îles Canaries). *Aulauda* 65: 306. (c/o E. Zamacrois, 13-30A, E-38005 Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands)
Sparrowhawk eating lizard.

Berrington W. 1997. Seed-eating sunbird. *Bee Eater* 48: 47. (No address given)
Female sunbird, probably Lesser Double-collared *Nectarinia chalybea*, eating grass seeds.

Boix Hinzen C. 1997. Notes on misdirected feeding behaviour. *Lanioturdus* 30 (4): 26-28. (PO Box 8952, Bachbrecht, Windhoek, Namibia)
Notes on hornbills feeding wrong species especially by Yellow-billed *Tockus flavirostris*.

Davies J.B. 1998. African Goshawk killing and eating Cape Francolin. *Promerops* 233: 12. (No address given)
Accipiter tachiro eating *Francolinus capensis*

Davies J.G. & Cowlshaw G. 1996. Baboon carnivory and raptor interspecific competition in the Namib Desert (Namibia). *J. Arid Envir.* 34: 247-249. (Cresswell Associates, The Court House, High St., Bisleigh GL6 7AA, UK)

Conflict between baboon and Black Kite *Milvus migrans* over remains of a calf.

Esterhuizen J. 1995. Booted Eagle captures prey missed by Lanner Falcon. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 10: 63-64. (Free State Raptor Project, PO Box 17523, Bainsvlei 9338, South Africa)

Hieraetus pennatus caught a Cape Turtle Dove *Streptopelia capicola* pursued by a *Falco biarmicus*.

Fasola M. & Biddau L. 1997. An assemblage of wintering waders in coastal Kenya: activity budget and habitat use. *Afr. J. Ecol.* 35: 339–350. (Dip. Biol. Anim., Pz. Botta 9, 27100 Pavia, Italy)

11 species of Palearctic Charadriidae and Scolopacidae congregated in communal roosts, had identical foraging rhythms determined by the tidal cycle, but differed in feeding microhabitat.

Franke E., Jackson S. & Nicolson S. 1998. Nectar sugar preferences and absorption in a generalist African frugivore, the Cape White-eye *Zosterops pallidus*. *Ibis* 140: 501–506. (Zool. Dept., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Preferred 20% (weight : weight) sucrose to glucose or fructose. Therefore resembled specialist nectarivores in southern Africa.

Goodman S.M. & Parrillo P. 1997. A study of the diets of Malagasy birds based on stomach contents. *Ostrich* 67: 104–113. (Field Mus. of Nat. Hist., Roosevelt Rd at Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605, USA)

Contents of 295 stomachs of 58 species listed qualitatively.

Goodman S.M. & Thorstrom R. 1998. The diet of Madagascar Red Owl (*Tyto soumagnei*) on the Masoala Peninsular, Madagascar. *Wilson Bull.* 110: 417–421. (Field Mus. of Nat. Hist., Roosevelt Rd at Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605, USA)

From pellets at first known nest, food found to be almost exclusively small mammals, mostly native ones, especially at forest edge.

Grimes P. 1998. African Goshawk take lourie. *Bee Eater* 49: 32. (No address given)

Accipiter tachiro carrying Green (Knysna) Lourie *Tauracopersa*.

Hartley R. & Ogilvie J. 1996. Black Eagles preying on bushbabies in Zimbabwe. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 11: 14–17. (Falcon College, Esigodini, Zimbabwe)

A pair of *Aquila verreauxii* took 44% bushbabies, 32% hyrax and 14% blue duiker.

Herremans M. & Herremans-Tonnoeyr D. 1997. Social foraging of the Forktailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis*: beater effect or kleptoparasitism? *Bird Behaviour* 12: 41–45. (Dept. Zool., Royal Mus. for Central Africa, Leuvensteenweg 13, B-3080 Tervuren, Belgium)

635 of 4,633 observations were with other birds or mammals, 61% of these

livestock. Almost all were simply using these to disturb the Drongo's insect prey.

Irwin M.P.S. 1998. Whyte's Barbet eating millipede. *Honeyguide* 44: 30–31. (PO Box 122, Borrowdale, Harare, Zimbabwe)

Stactolaema whytiae eating probably *Alloporus uncinatus*.

Kyle R. 1997. Reptiles as prey of the Brown-hooded Kingfisher *Halcyon albiventris* at Kosi Bay, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. *Ostrich* 67: 122. (KwaZulu Dept. of Nat. Conserv., PO Box 43, KwaNgwanase 3973, South Africa)

List of several reptiles, mainly lizards, eaten in garden.

Lepperhoff L. 1997. [Observations of Brown-headed Parrots *Poicephalus cryptoxanthus* in the Kruger National Park, Mpulanga Province, South Africa.] (In German) *Papageien* 10: 312–317. (No address given)

Popular account of species with author's own observations of food and feeding.

Maguire E. 1997. Grey Herons *Ardea cinerea* preying on Little Swifts *Apus affinis*. *Mirafra* 14 (3/4): 13. (PO Box 611, Stellenbosch 7599, South Africa)

Hérons caught swifts which fell into water. 6 caught in half an hour at one point.

Malan G. & Crowe T.M. 1997. Perch availability and ground cover: factors that may constitute suitable hunting conditions for Pale Chanting Goshawk families. *S. Afr. J. Zool.* 32: 14–20. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Availability of perches more important than height, although do use the highest, for hunting *Melierix canorus*. More open habitats preferred.

Maciver M. 1998. Fish Eagle drama at Rietvlei. *Promerops* 232: 10–11. (No address given)

Haliaeetus vocifer when trying to catch Red-knobbed Coots *Fulica cristata* appeared to get stuck in water before emerging. Later caught a coot with one foot without going into water.

Martin R. & Pepler D. 1997. Greater Striped Swallows feeding in the intertidal zone. *Promerops* 231: 8. (No address given)

Hirundo cucullata taking prey from sand mostly while flying.

Mongiu J.-L. & Mongiu M.-C. 1998. Les profondeurs maximum atteintes en plongée par le Puffin cendré *Calonectris diomedea* au cours de ses voyages alimentaires de la période d'incubation. *Terre et Vie* 53: 69–76. (Lab. Zool. MNHN, 55 rue Buffon, 75005 Paris, France)

Maximum dive average 2.7 m (max. 5.5m) of Cory's Shearwaters during incubation on Selvagem Grande and deeper than Azores conspecifics.

Nel A. 1998. Kelp Gull feeding behaviour. *Bee Eater* 49: 4–5. (No address given)

Larus dominicanus dropping shelled molluscs to break them.

Njiforti H.L., Hebout L. & Bodenkamp A. 1998. Diet of helmeted guinea fowl (*Numida meleagris galeata* Pallas) in the Wazi region of north Cameroon. *Afr. J. Ecol.* 36: 71–82. (Inst. of Anim. and Vet. Res., PO Box 77, Maroua, Cameroon)

Rhizomes of *Stylochiton lancifolius* and termites were bulk of dry season diet. Selected food of water rich and high sodium content.

Ntiemoa-Baidu Y., Piersma T., Wiersma P., Poot M., Battley P. & Gordon C. 1998. Water depth selection, daily feeding routines and diets of waterbirds in coastal lagoons in Ghana. *Ibis* 140: 89–103. (Zool. Dept., Univ. of Ghana, PO Box 67, Legon, Accra, Ghana)

Over 3,000 flocks containing 36 species studied in Oct–Nov 1994. Water depth is most important factor controlling food availability.

Pienaar H. 1996. Piracy by Eastern Red-footed Kestrels on Lesser Kestrels. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 11: 20–21. (PO Box 42127, Three Rivers East 1941, South Africa)

Falco amurensis seen chasing *F. naumanni* several times.

Ramos J.A., Solá E., Monteiro L.R. & Ratcliffe N. 1998. Prey delivered to Roseate Tern chicks in the Azores. *J. Field Orn.* 69: 419–429. (Inst. Piaget, ISEIT/Mirandela. Av. 25 de Abril, 5370 Mirandela, Portugal)

Notes on what, when and how much prey brought to *Sterna dougallii* chicks at several colonies in June–July 1995.

Ramos J.A., Solá E., Porteiro F.M. & Monteiro L.R. 1998. Prey of Yellow-legged Gull, Roseate Tern and Common Tern in the Azores. *Seabird* 20: 31–40. (Inst. Piaget, ISEIT/Mirandela. Av. 25 de Abril, 5370 Mirandela, Portugal)

Pellets and prey remains of *Larus cachinnans*, *Sterna dougallii* and *S. hirundo* showed food mostly epipelagic fish but mesopelagic fish also important. Major annual and seasonal variations in availability found.

Renaudier A. 1998. Un faucon crécerellette *Falco naumanni* capture un martinet *Apus* sp. au Maroc. *Nos Oiseaux* 45: 108. (FRAPNA, rue Sainte Hélène 32, F-69002, Lyon, France)

Lesser Kestrel seen carrying a small swift in feet.

Roxby M. 1998. Feeding behaviour of Collared Nightjar *Caprimulgus enarratus*. *Bull. ABC* 5: 130–131. (25 Oakfield Cres., Bowburn, Co. Durham DH6 5DF, UK)

Fed like a flycatcher flying out from a perch for 15 mins at least.

Sanders M.J., Owen-Smith R.N. & Pillay N. 1997. Fruit selection in the olive thrush: the importance of colour. *S. Afr. J. Zool.* 32: 21–23. (Res. Unit for Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystems, Dept. Zool., Rand Afrikaans Univ., PO Box 524, Johannesburg 2000, South Africa)

Turdus olivaceus chose fruit on colour, related to ripeness and changed colour preferences with different species.

Solomon D. 1997. Bird feeding associations. *On Safari* 16: 15–16. (No address given)

Brief review notes on birds using mammals (mainly) as feeding aids.

Vogeley W. 1998. The availability, requirements and usage of carcasses by Cape Vultures *Gyps coprotheres* in south eastern Botswana. *Babbler* 33: 17–21. (Galgenberg 63, 34346 Hann. Muenden, Germany)

Cape Vulture colony at Mannyelanong calculated to need 121 kg food per day and area seems able to support this.

Webster K. 1997. Goat kills Black Eagle. *Bee Eater* 48: 46. (No address given)

A rather thin *Aquila verreauxii* killed a kid and was then killed by the mother goat.

Nests and Breeding Biology

Ali D. & Khalil R. 1998. Breeding behaviour of Kittlitz's Plover. *Dutch Birding* 20: 115–118. (16 Ali Ibrahim Ramez St., Heliopolis, Cairo, Egypt)
150–200 pairs of *Charadrius pecuarius* nest in Wadi el Natrun. Notes on behaviour at nest given.

Banfield G.E.A. 1995. Black Eagle breeding report: Matobo National Park—1994. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 10: 66. (49A Lawley Rd, Suburbs, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

37 territories of *Aquila verreauxii* occupied, 21 young reared in 31st year of monitoring.

Banfield G.E.A. 1996. Black Eagle breeding report: Matobo National Park—1995. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 11: 22. (49A Lawley Rd, Suburbs, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

40 territories of *Aquila verreauxii* occupied, 12 young reared in 32nd year of monitoring

Banfield G.E.A. 1998. Black Eagle breeding report Matobo National Park 1997. *Honeyguide* 44: 50–51. (49A Lawley Rd, Suburbs, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

23 successful pairs from 35 territories occupied.

Bannor B.K. 1998. Nest sharing by captive Cape Teal *Anas capensis*. *Wildfowl* 48: 186–187. (Metrozoo, 12400 Southwest 152 St., Miami, Florida 33177, USA)

2 females laid in same nest in captivity and clearly it could happen in wild too.

Barré S., Mandon-Dalger I. & Clergau P. 1998. Premières données sur la reproduction du Bulbul Orphée *Pycnonotus jocosus* sur l'île de la Réunion. *Alauda* 66: 258–260. (Mus. d'Hist. nat., 1 rue Poivre, F-97400 Saint-Denis, La Réunion)

Notes on the nest of this bulbul.

Bickle C. 1997. Hard-pressed Black Oystercatchers struggle to breed on the west coast. *Promerops* 228: 13–14. (No address given)

Notes on a breeding attempt by *Haematopus moquini*.

Boix Hinzen C. 1998. Canned hornbills in Daan Viljoen Game Reserve!! *Lanioturdus* 31 (1): 11–14. (PO Box 8952, Bachbrecht, Windhoek, Namibia)

Notes on the death of a female Monteiro's Hornbill *Tockus monteiri* due to heat in a nest box.

Boix Hinzen C. 1998. Sexual encounters in Violet Woodhoopoes. *Lanioturdus* 31 (1): 26–29. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of African Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)
Adult male *Phoeniculus damarensis* mounted a fledgling male.

Carter M.F. & Dickerman R.W. 1998. The first documented nest and eggs of *Merops muelleri mentalis*. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 118: 123–124. (Colorado Bird Obs., 13401 Picadilly Rd, Brighton, Colorado 80601, USA)

In Mar 1990 in northern Liberia.

Claffey P. 1998. New breeding records of Verreaux's Eagle Owl *Bubo lacteus* in Bénin, West Africa. *Bull. ABC* 5: 127. (BP 302, Parakou, Bénin)
Nest at Bétérou in Feb 1998.

Dijkstra K.-D. 1997. Striated Heron *Butorides striatus* breeding in the Egyptian Nile Valley. *Sandgrouse* 19: 140. (Oude Rignsbuurgerweg 38, 2342 BC Oegstgeet, The Netherlands)
At Aswan in July 1993.

Dowsett-Lemaire F. 1998. First observations on the nest of Purple-headed Starling *Lamprolaima purpureiceps*. *Malimbus* 20: 55–56. (12 rue de Lavandes, F-34190 Ganges, France)

Nest in hole 26 m up tree observed for a week.

Eberhard J.R. 1998. Evolution of nest-building behaviour in *Agapornis* parrots.

Ank 115: 455–464. (Dept. Ecol. & Evol. Biol., Princeton Univ., Princeton, NJ 08544, USA)

5 species construct nests. Cytochrome-b gene studies indicate that this behaviour evolved early and only once in genus suggesting they are perhaps subspecies. Nest-building is associated with colonial breeding and the implications of this discussed.

Feather P.J. 1997. Carmine Bee-Eater nesting colonies in Zimbabwe. *Honeyguide* 43: 184–187. (92 Arnold Way, Burnside, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

Numbers of *Merops nubicoides* remained fairly constant since 1960s but appears that colonies are now more confined to protected areas. Full list of colonies and sizes given in appendix.

Fisher B. 1998. Unusual nest site of a Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis*. *Babbler* 33: 27. (Beaumont House, Beaumont-cum-Moze, Thorpe le Soken, Essex CO16 0AR, UK)

In reeds at Jao Camp in Okavango Delta in 1996.

Friede G. 1995. Die Weissstirrenge-pfeifer. (German). *Lanioturdus* 28: 39–41. (PO Box 3910, Swakopmund, Namibia)

Notes on a nest of White-fronted Plover *Charadrius marginatus*.

Hall D. 1995. Twenty-three years of breeding records at a Wahlberg's Eagle nest site in Nelspruit District, South Africa. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 10: 58–62. (PO Box 8, Mataffin 1205, South Africa)

16 breeding attempts of *Aquila wahlbergi* successful in 3 different nest sites. Seems from coloration that 4 males and 6 females used site in this time.

Haw J. 1996. Strange nest lining of two pairs of Crowned Eagles. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 11: 19–20. (c/o PO Box 72155, Parkview 2122, South Africa)

2 pairs of *Stephanoaetus coronatus* used alien leaf sprays exclusively, and not those of the more common native species.

Herholdt J.J. & Kemp A.C. 1997. Breeding status of the Martial Eagle in the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park, South Africa. *Ostrich* 67: 80–85. (Mpumalanga Parks Board, PO Box 1990, Nelspruit 1200, South Africa)

Monitoring of 16 nesting areas of *Polemaetus bellicosus* over 7 years 1988–1994 with no evidence of a decline.

Herremans M. 1997. Shortclawed Lark *Certhilauda chuana* clutch from Belfast (Mpumalanga)—a correction. *Ostrich* 67: 121. (Dept. Zool., Royal Mus. for Central Africa, Leeuvensesteenweg 13, B-3080 Tervuren, Belgium)

The clutch in Zool. Mus. in Helsinki alleged to be this species is unlikely to be

and is probably of an aberrant of Long-billed Lark *C. curvirostra*.

Holland E. 1997. Grass Owls and Greater Spotted Cuckoo parasitism in the lowveld. *Honeyguide* 43: 219. (PO Box 12, Mutare, Zimbabwe)

Tyto capensis seen in Malilungwa Conservancy and *Clamator glandarius* being fed by Long-tailed Glossy Starling *Lamprolornis mevesii*.

Holtam J. 1998. Nesting of the White-tailed Swallow *Hirundo megaensis*. *Scopus* 20: 58–60. (CARE Ethiopia, PO Box 4710, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

First known nests attached to roof of Borana hut in May 1996.

Houghton G. & Houghton G. 1997. Blue Crane breeding—the ongoing saga. *On Safari* 16: 16–17. (No address given)

A few notes on a chick *Anthropoides paradisea*.

Hustler K. 1997. Notes on the breeding biology of the Coppery-tailed Coucal. *Honeyguide* 43: 184–187. (PO Box 159, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe)

General description of nesting of *Centropus cupreicaudus*.

Hustler K. 1998. The breeding biology of the Brown Firefinch. *Honeyguide* 44: 19–22. (PO Box 159, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe)

Breeding data for *Lagonosticta nitidula*.

Komdeur J., Daan S., Tinbergen J. & Mateman C. 1997. Extreme adaptive modification in sex ratio of the Seychelles Warbler's eggs. *Nature* 385: 522–525. (Zool. Lab., Univ. Groningen, PO Box 14, 9750 AA Haren, The Netherlands)

Helpers in *Acrocephalus sechellensis* are mostly females and enhance success on good quality territories and reduce it on poor quality ones. Pairs on former with no helpers produce more females and those with helpers more males and switch depending on presence or absence of helpers.

Kopij G. 1997. Breeding ecology of the African Spoonbill *Platalea alba* in the Free State, South Africa. *Ostrich* 67: 77–79. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. of Orange Free State, PO Box 339, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa)

Data on breeding biology from a 15-nest colony in 1976–1977.

von Korff J. 1997. Lesser Doublecollared Sunbird's unusual nest. *Bee Eater* 48: 47. (No address given)

Nectarinia chalybeata used bits of plastic and an old hen's eggshell in nest.

Malan G. & Jenkins A.R. 1996. Territory and nest defence in polyandrous pale chanting goshawks: do co-breeders help?

S. Afr. J. Zool. 31: 170–176. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Female *Melierax canorus* with two males benefited from better nest defence due to being able to guard nestlings more.

Martin R. & Pepler D. 1997. Black Sawwing Swallows collecting nest material. *Promerops* 231: 11. (No address given)

Psaldiprocne pristopectera collected grass mostly in flight.

Martin R. & Pepler D. 1998. Little Swifts breeding in a palm tree. *Promerops* 232: 11. (No address given)

3 pairs of *Apus affinis* nesting in a palm with a pair of Palm Swifts *Cypsiurus parvus*.

McFarlane J. 1997. Cape Sparrow ménage à trois. *Promerops* 229: 10. (No address given)

Male and 2 female *Passer melanurus* regularly produce 3 broods of 4 chicks.

McFarlane J. 1997. Hole-nesting Cape Sparrows. *Promerops* 229: 12–13. (No address given)

Passer melanurus in a tree hole which they had taken over from House Sparrows *P. domesticus*.

Mearns R. 1997. Malachite Sunbird observations at Langebaan. *Promerops* 229: 14. (No address given)

Some notes on nesting *Nectarinia famosa* adjacent to a patio.

Mendelsohn J. 1997. Namibian hornbills in nestboxes. *Lanioturdus* 30 (4): 22–26. (PO Box 80044, Olympia, Windhoek, Namibia)

About 450 attempts over past 8 years mainly Monteiro's *Tockus monteiri*.

Mendelsohn J. 1998. Nest boxes for birds in Namibia. *Lanioturdus* 31 (1): 9–11. (PO Box 80044, Windhoek, Namibia)

Some notes on making them for the above.

Middleton I.D., Drummond D.G. & Hartley R.R. 1998. Development of a White-faced Owl from hatching to fledging. *Honeyguide* 44: 5–13. (RRH at Falcon College, Esigodini, Zimbabwe)

Otus leucotis left nest on day 27 but development not complete. Data on growth rates and food given.

Mougin J.-L. 1998. Factors affecting egg dimensions and breeding success in the Cory's Shearwater (*Calonectris diomedea*) of Selvagem Grande. *J. Orn.* 139: 179–184. (Mus. Nat. d'Hist. nat., Lab. de Zool., 55 rue Buffon, F-75005 Paris, France)

Breeding success increases with egg size but latter is very variable between females. Older females lay larger and more rounded eggs.

Neufeld, D. 1998. Nest site use and changes in habitat of the Seychelles Black Paradise Flycatcher. *Biol. Conserv.* 84: 103–105. (Colorado State Univ., Dept. Forest Sci., Volunteer Peace Corps US, Ft Collins, CO 80521, USA)

Estimated world population of *Terpsiphone corvinus* is 90 individuals (1992); clearing Takamaka and Indian Almond woodland for development should be mitigated in view of the potential impact on nest site use.

Nuttall D. 1998. Olive-headed Weaver—in search of the living nest. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (1): 37–42. (No address given)

18 nests of *Ploceus olivaceus* found in mature *Brachystegia* forest in Mozambique with some notes on the difficulties of finding it. Nests made entirely of *Usnea* in upper reaches of trees.

O'Daniel D.L. 1997. Observations at a nest of the Madagascar Wagtail *Motacilla flaviventris*. *Ostrich* 68: 19–22. (PO Box 418, Lead Hill, AR 72644, USA)

Basic data on incubation and fledging.

O'Malley P. & O'Malley D.J. 1998.

Purple Herons nesting at Vrolijkheid Reserve. *Promerops* 233: 12. (No address given)

5 *Ardea purpurea* in colony in Oct 1997.

Osborne T.O. 1998. Suspended breeding: effects of the current drought in Etosha. *Lanioturdus* 31 (1): 17–19. (PO Box 22, Okaukuejo, via Outjo, Namibia)

Some notes on bustards and cranes suspending or failing to breed.

Parkes D.A. 1998. Western Banded Snake Eagle nesting on the Middleveld. *Honeyguide* 44: 25–27. (PO Box A674, Avondale, Harare, Zimbabwe)

Some observations at a nest of *Circaetus cinerascens*.

Pfister H. 1997. Spoonbills nesting at Swellendam. *Promerops* 229: 15. (No address given)

Platalea alba nesting in a small heron colony.

Pierce A.J. & Rayment M.D. 1998. Disturbance of Plain Martin *Riparia paludicola* nests by Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer griseus swainsonii*. *Scopus* 20: 51–52. (5 St. Nicholas Drive, Cheltenham, Glos GL50 4RY, UK)

Latter took out nestlings of former apparently to take over hole.

Renaudier A. 1997. Nidification de la Taleve Sultane (*Porphyrio porphyrio*) à Sidi Bou Ghaba. *Porphyrio* 9: 69. (9 Chemin du Plain Vallon, 69300 Caluire et Cuire, France)

2 juvenile Purple Gallinule being fed in May 1997.

Renson G. 1998. Observations sur la reproduction du bec-en-sabot *Balaeniceps rex* en Zambie de 1992 à 1997. *Alanda* 66: 81–96. (12 Ave. de la Grande Armée, F-75017 Paris, France)

For 28 months over 5 visits breeding notes on Shoebill made in Bangweulu Swamps.

Safford R.J. 1997. The nests of sympatric native and introduced fody *Foudia* species on Mauritius. *Ostrich* 68: 27–30. (Royal Holloway Inst. for Env. Res., Huntersdale, Callow Hill, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4LN, UK)

F. rubra (native) and *F. madagascariensis* (introduced) breed simultaneously and sympatrically in uplands. Nest of native species seems better adapted (thicker etc) to cool, wet climate. Both build an outer roofing layer.

Safford R.J. 1997. The annual cycle and breeding behaviour of the Mauritius Fody *Foudia rubra*. *Ostrich* 67: 58–67. (Royal Holloway Inst. for Env. Res., Huntersdale, Callow Hill, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4LN, UK)

Detailed notes on breeding and some on plumages, postures, voice, moult and other behaviour of this endangered species.

Sala A. 1998. Observation d'une parade collective avec accouplement du Martinet des Palmiers *Cypsiurus parvus*. *Malimbus* 20: 126–127. (BP 185, Yaoundé, Cameroon)

30–35 Palm Swifts displaying and one pair mated.

Simiyu A. 1996. The breeding condition of Lichtenstein's and Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse during the closed shooting season in Marsabit District, northern Kenya. *Nat. Mus. Kenya Centre for Biodiversity reports: ornithology* 22: 1–4. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

None of 29 *Pterocles lichtensteinii* and 64 of 240 *P. exustus* were in breeding condition shortly after end of closed season.

Simmons R. 1995. The Namibian Nest Record Scheme. Third annual report: May 1993–August 1994. *Lanioturdus* 28: 3–11. (Min. of Envir. & Tourism, PB 13306, Windhoek, Namibia)

Over 900 records of 148 species.

Skinner N.J. 1998. The Nest Record Card Scheme. *Babbler* 33: 34–37. (60 Gunton Drive, Lowestoft, Suffolk, UK)

Present holding of Botswana scheme for 381 species. Notes on some recent interesting records given.

Tarboton W. 1997. Exploring the website: Gabar Goshawk. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 2 (6): 26–28. (No address given)

Micronisus gabar actively collects nests of colonial spider to incorporate into its nest.

Tarboton W. 1998. Dabchick days. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (1): 30–35. (No address given)

Some notes, especially on breeding, on *Tachybaptus ruficollis* on a temporary pond in the Nyl valley.

Thomsett S. 1998. A nest of Hartlaub's Bustard *Enpodotis hartlaubii*. *Scopus* 20: 55–56. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

In May 1997 at Game Ranching Ltd.

Thorstrom R. & Roland L.A.R. 1997. First nest record and nesting behaviour of the Madagascar Red Owl *Tyto soumagnei*. *Ostrich* 68: 42–43. (Peregrine Fund, 566 West Flying Hawk Lane, Boise, Idaho 83709, USA)

Radio-tagged bird led observers to nest in Jul 1995 which fledged in Nov in NE Madagascar.

Trujillo D. & Barone R. 1998.

Nidification de l'épervier d'Europe *Accipiter nisus* dans des cultures d'avocats (Îles Canaries). *Alanda* 66: 69. (c/El Durazno, 47-E-38400 Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, Canary Islands)

Nest of Sparrowhawk found in small plantation (0.5 ha) surrounded by xeric scrub.

Underhill L.G. 1998. Redbilled Queleas breeding at the Orange River estuary. *Bird Numbers* 7 (2): 23. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Colony of 1,000 pairs of *Quelea quelea* in Jan 1996 is 300 km extension of breeding range.

Winterbottom M. 1998. The mating game in the Red-billed Buffalo Weaver. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (3): 19. (No address given)

Bubalornis niger has a complex mating system usually involving a male and 3–4 females.

Wood A. & Johnson D.N. 1997. The incubation period of Stanley's Bustard *Neotis denhami stanleyi*. *Ostrich* 68: 45. (KwaZulu Dept. of Nat. Conserv., PO Box 36, Boston 3211, South Africa)

23–25 days in Nov 1995 in Impendle Nature Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal.

Identification

Allan D. 1997. Africa's barred hawks. A guide to their identification. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 2 (6): 31–36. (No address given)

Detailed notes on 2 *Melierax*, 11 *Accipiter* and 3 other species with illustrations by Doug Goude.

Hockey P. 1998. Africa's waders—a guide to their identification. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (1): 53–61; 3 (2): 63–69. (No address given)

Part 1 covers the small species and Part 2 the larger species of scolopacid waders to be seen in southern Africa. Illustrations from *Shorebirds* (Hayman, Marchant & Prater 1986. Croom Helm, London)

Liversidge R. 1998. The African pipit enigma. *Bull. ABC* 5: 105–107. (92 Central Rd, Kimberley 8301, South Africa)

Means of identification of large plain-backed pipits are inadequate. The way they move and their posture seem to be important in this group.

Morris P. & Hawkins F. 1998. Some comments on the identification of six Madagascan raptors. *Bull. ABC* 5: 114–119. (c/o BirdQuest, Two Jays, Kemple End, Birdy Brow, Stonyhurst, Lancs BB7 9QY, UK)

Madagascan Buzzard *Buteo brachypterus*, Cuckoo Hawk *Aviceda madagascariensis*, 3 *Accipiter* spp and Serpent-Eagle *Eutriorchis astur*.

Oatley T.B. 1998. Africa's robins. A guide to their identification. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (4): 63–68. (No address given)

Notes on 3 trios and 6 pairs of species with illustrations (by Graeme Arnott) from Oatley's August 1998 book *Robins of Africa* (Acorn Books and Russel Friedmann Books).

Taylor B. 1998. Africa's flufftails—a guide to their identification. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (3): 63–66. (No address given)

A guide to 9 species of *Sarothrura* with illustrations from the Aug 1998 book (Taylor B. & van Perlo B. *Rails*. Pica Press)

Taxonomy

Berthold P., Mohr G. & Querner U. 1997.

[The Veiled Blackcap: genetic basis, recent observations, and historical aspects of this melanistic form of the Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*.] (German with English summary) *J. Orn.* 138: 135–170. (Max-Planck-Inst. für Verhaltensphys., Vogelwarte Radolfzell, Schloss Möggingen, Schlossallee 2, D-78315 Radolfzell, Germany)

Genetic experiments show that this Madeiran variant is a single locus autosomal gene. It occurs in about 2% there and also on Azores and Canary Islands.

Clancey P.A. 1997. Subspeciation in Layard's Tit-babbler of the southwestern Afrotropics. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 117: 244–247. (Durban Mus. Nat. Sci., PO Box 4085, Durban 4000, South Africa)

Admits 3 subspecies of *Parisoma layardi* based on plumage characters with no difference in measurements.

Clancey P.A. 1997. A case for the recognition of a further species of cisticola (Aves: Sylviidae) from southeastern Africa—the wetland cisticola *Cisticola taciturnus*. *Durban Mus. Novit.* 22: 60–62. (Durban Mus. Nat. Sci., PO Box 4085, Durban 4000, South Africa)

Splitting from *Cisticola brunnescens* seems justified on morphological and distributional features. Adds another distinctive allopecies to avifauna of Drakensburg montane system.

Clancey P.A. 1997. Variation in the Karoo Prinia *Prinia maculosa* (Aves: Sylviidae) of South Africa. *Durban Mus. Novit.* 22: 63–65. (Durban Mus. Nat. Sci., PO Box 4085, Durban 4000, South Africa)

Discussion of *P. hypoxantha* and 3 subspecies of *P. maculosa*.

Clark W.S. 1996. The validity of Archer's Buzzard as a species. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 11: 11–13. (7800 Dasset Court, Apt 101, Annandale, VA 22003, USA)

Current evidence (plumage, vocal and distribution) suggests that 'Buteo archeri' is a subspecies of Augur Buzzard *B. augur*.

Collar N.J. 1998. Monotypy of *Francolinus griseostriatus*. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 118: 124–126. (BirdLife International, Wellbrook Court, Girton Road, Cambridge CB3 0NA, UK)

The Grey-striped Francolin from the Angolan escarpment appears to be monotypic.

Craig A.J.F.K. 1997. A phylogeny for the African starlings (Sturnidae). *Ostrich* 67: 114–116. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Rhodes Univ., Grahamstown 6140, South Africa)

Suggested relationships of 49 species.

Dowsett-Lemaire F. & Dowsett R.J. 1998. Vocal and other peculiarities of Brown Nightjar *Caprimulgus binotatus*. *Bull. ABC* 5: 35–38. (12 rue des Lavandes, Ganges F-34190., France)

An individual caught in Parc National de Nouabalé-Ndoki (Congo) using tape play-back of previously unknown species. It has 2 short 'horns' of stiff feathers on forehead, unique in African nightjars; this and voice could justify a separate genus.

Harebottle D.M., Taylor P.J. & Berruti A. 1997. The subspecies status of the spotted ground thrush *Zootera guttata guttata* (Aves: Turdidae) in South Africa—a multivariate analysis. *Durban Mus. Novit.* 22: 32–36. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Natal, Pietermaritzburg, PB X01, Scottsville 3209, South Africa)

7 characters of 56 specimens from all over South Africa provide no support for existence of more than one subspecies.

Leisler B., Heidrich P., Schulze-Hagen K. & Wink M. 1997. Taxonomy and phylogeny of reed warblers (genus

Acrocephalus) based on mtDNA sequences and morphology. *J. Orn.* 138: 469–496. (Max-Planck-Inst. für Verhaltensphysiol., Vogelwarte Radolfzell, Schloss Moggingen, Schlossallee 2, D-78315 Radolfzell, Germany)

Proposes splitting *Acrocephalus* into 4: *Acrocephalus* for the large species, *Calamodius* for the striped, *Notocichla* for the small plain and *Iduna* for the brownish "Hippolais" species. Analysed 23 species of *Acrocephalus* and 3 *Hippolais*.

Lewis A. 1998. Mayotte Scops Owl *Otus rutilus mayottensis*. *Bull. ABC* 5: 33–34. (4 Troutbeck Ave., Congleton, Cheshire CW12 4JA, UK)

Photographs, sonograms and biometrics suggest it may be a distinct species from the nominate form on Madagascar.

Miller E.R., Tab Rasmussen D., & Simons E.L. 1997. Fossil storks (Ciconiidae) from Late Eocene and Early Miocene of Egypt. *Ostrich* 68: 23–26. (Duke Univ. Primate Centre, 3705 Erwin Rd, Durham, NC 27705-5000, USA)

A *Leptoptilos* and an unattributable tibiotarsii found and shows N Africa to have been a tropical or subtropical wet coastal grassland at that time.

Olson S.L. 1998. Notes on the systematics of the Rockrunner *Achaetops* (Passeriformes, Timaliidae) and its presumed relatives. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 118: 47–52. (Dept. Vert. Zool., Nat. Mus. Nat. Hist., Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560, USA)

Mainly from osteological evidence, concludes that *Chaetops* (including *Achaetops*) should stay in Timaliidae and not transfer to Sylviidae which might convey misleading impression of knowledge we do not yet have.

Payne R.B. 1998. A new species of firefinch *Lagonosticta* from northern Nigeria and its association with the Jos Plateau Indigobird *Vidua maryae*. *Ibis* 140: 368–381. (Mus. Zool. & Dept. Biol., Univ. Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA)

Rock Firefinch *Lagonosticta sanguinodorialis* described. One-to-one relation with brood-parasitic Indigobird led to its discovery via song mimicry.

Prinzinger R., Becker P., Kleim J.-P., Schiroth W. & Schierwater B. 1997. [The taxonomic status of *Laniarius dubiosus* (Rchw. 1899) with additional data on type description of *Laniarius liberatus*, Bulu Burti Boubou (Smith, Arcander, Fjeldsæ & Amir 1991).] (German with English summary) *J. Orn.* 138: 283–289. (AK Stoffwechselfys., Univ. Frankfurt, Seismayerstr. 70, D-60323 Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany)

The type of *L. dubiosus* was a juvenile now shown to be of western race of

Luehder's Bushshrike *L. lubderi*. *L. dubiosus* sequences of cytochrome-b are distinct from *L. liberatus*.

Prinzinger R., Kleim J.-P., Schiroth W. & Schierwater B. 1997. DNA sequence analysis of mitochondrial Cyt-b and species status of *Laniarius dubiosus* (Rchw. 1899). *J. Orn.* 138: 291–296. (AK Stoffwechselfys., Univ. Frankfurt, Seismayerstr. 70, D-60323 Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany)

L. dubiosus shown to be western form of *L. lubderi* using DNA from feathers, skin and Cyt-b.

Ryan P.G. & Bloomer P. 1997. Geographic variation in Red Lark *Certhilauda burraplume*, morphology, song and mitochondrial DNA haplotypes. *Ostrich* 68: 31–36. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Conclude it is a single 'Vulnerable' species but with 3 populations.

Ryan P.G., Hood I., Bloomer P., Komen J. & Crowe T.M. 1998. Barlow's Lark: a new species in the Karoo Lark *Certhilauda albescens* complex of southwest Africa. *Ibis* 140: 605–619. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Using cytochrome-b DNA showed that complex is 3 species: *C. albescens*, *C. erythrochlamys* and the new *C. barlowi*. Also morphological and behavioural support for new species occurring exclusively in diamond mining areas around Orange River in Namibia with livestock excluded.

Sangster G. 1997. *Acrocephalus* and *Hippolais* relationships: shaking the tree. *Dutch Birding* 19: 294–300. (Nieuwe Rijn 27, 2312 JD Leiden, The Netherlands)

A review of the relationships extensively quoting Leisler *et al* (1997, *J. Orn.* 138: 469–496).

Sangster G. 1998. Purple Swamp-hen is a complex of species. *Dutch Birding* 20: 13–22. (Nieuwe Rijn 27, 2312 JD Leiden, The Netherlands)

A review of Trewick's (1996, *New Zealand J. Zool.* 238: 221–237) data on *Porphyrio* complex including *P. madagascariensis* although mainly the Asian and Australasian species are affected.

Williams E. 1998. Green-breasted Bushshrike *Malaconotus gladiator* and its relationship with Monteiro's Bush-shrike *M. montei*. *Bull. ABC* 5: 101–104. (6 Newbold Grove, Croxteth Park, Liverpool L12 0NS, UK)

Some evidence for these two to be conspecific. Distinction on call is certainly unreliable.

Young H.G., Sorensen M.D. & Johnson K.P. 1998. A description of the Madagas-

car Teal *Anas bernieri* and an examination of its relationships with the Grey Teal *A. gracilis*. *Wildfowl* 48: 174–180. (Jersey Wildl. Pres. Trust, Les Augrès Manor, Trinity, Jersey JE3 5BP, Channel Islands)

Capture of live adults and captive breeding programme of Madagascar Teal have allowed detailed description and genetic relations to its closest relative (in Australia).

Morphology and Physiology

Craig A.J.F.K. & Villet M.H. 1998. Sexual dimorphism and tail-length in widowbirds and bishopbirds (Ploceidae: *Euplectes* spp.): a reassessment. *Ibis* 140: 137–143. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Rhodes Univ., PO Box 94, Grahamstown 6140, South Africa)

No evidence for sexual selection in evolution of tail length or wing length found when methods used previously applied to larger data sets. In all but Long-tailed Widowbird *Euplectes progneta* tail length scales to body size. Wing length appears to be under stabilising selection.

Demey R. & Fishpool L.D.C. 1998. On the existence of a melanistic morph of the Long-tailed Hawk *Urotriorchis macrourus*. *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Cl.* 118: 105–108. (Grote Peperstr. 3, B-9100 Sint-Niklaas, Belgium)

Claims appear well-founded with several records.

Desman B. 1998. Aberrant birds around Plettenberg Bay. *Bee Eater* 49: 32. (No address given)

Albinistic Brown-hooded *Halcyon albiventris* and Pied Kingfishers *Ceryle rudis*

Gray A. 1998. Leucistic Bank Cormorants and Cape Bulbul. *Promerops* 232: 10. (No address given)

3 *Phalacrocorax neglectus* and 1 *Pycnonotus capensis* at Gansbaai in Sept 1997.

Kersten M., Bruinzeel L.W., Wiersma P. & Piersma T. 1998. Reduced basal metabolic rate of migratory waders wintering in coastal Africa. *Ardea* 86: 71–80. (Centre d'Études Biol. de Chizé, Centre Nat. de la Rech. Sci., 79360 Villiers en Bois, France)

16 species measured. No difference between families but all species reduced BMR rapidly (by average 31%) on arrival in tropics.

Mundy P. 1998. Oxspecker hybrids. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (4): 20. (No address given)

Hybrid of Red-billed *Buphagus erythrorhynchus* and Yellow-billed *B. africanus*. Oxspeckers found in Matobo Nat. Park where they had been translocated to.

Ryan P.G. 1997. Aberrant wing pattern in adult Hartlaub's Gull. *Ostrich* 67: 123. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

In Feb 1997 adult *Larus bartlaubii* with predominantly white outer primaries at Langebaan.

Underhill L., Piersma T. & Cadée N. 1998. Intercontinental studies on an intercontinental migrant: ecophysiological research in the Netherlands on Knots from South Africa. *Bird Numbers* 7 (2): 31–36. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

10 *Calidris canutus* transported from Langebaan to The Netherlands. Data on weight changes and metabolic rates given.

Sites

Briggs P. 1997. Focus on Chirinda Forest. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 2 (6): 60–63. (No address given)

Some detailed notes on this forest in Zimbabwe's Eastern Highlands.

Gregory-Smith R. 1997. Namibian safari. *Adjutant* 26: 24–41. (No address given)

Trip report of 2 months in 1996.

Guy R. 1997. Birding in the Sani Pass into Lesotho. *On Safari* no.16: 3–4. (PO Box 161, Underberg 3257, South Africa)

Brief notes on birds along the only road transecting the Drakensberg escarpment in Natal.

Lloyd P. 1997. Highland low-down. Birding Zimbabwe's Eastern Highlands. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 2 (6): 54–59. (No address given)

Some notes on 5 sites in area.

Martin R. & Pepler D. 1997. Olifantsbos indigenous forest, Riviersonderend. *Promerops* 228: 15. (No address given)

A short visit to this rather inaccessible ravine area in Nov 1996.

Nason A. 1998. Birding in Tanji Bird Reserve and Bijol Island, The Gambia. *Bull. ABC* 5: 51–55. (Mount Sorrel Farm, Broad Chalke, Salisbury, Wilts SP5 5HQ, UK)

Notes from a 2-week dry season visit.

Ryan P., Barnes K. & Sinclair I. 1998. Tanzania's eastern arc—endemic hotspot of eastern Africa. *Africa: Birds & Birding* 3 (3): 46–52. (No address given)

A resumé of what to see where following a whistle-stop tour.

Solomon D. 1998. Zimbabwe—southern Africa's nesting ground. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (1): 43. (No address given)

A few brief notes on what can be seen.

Solomon D. 1998. Zimbabwe—southern Africa's nesting ground. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (2): 60. (No address given)

Some notes on the Save Valley Conservancy—a 1 million ha private reserve.

Tarboton W. & Madden S. 1998. Blesbokspuit—a drowning wetland? *Africa: Birds & Birding* 3 (3): 32–37. (No address given)

This Ramsar site near Gauteng has potential problems of too much water. Site is described fully.

Tilamus E. 1997. Raapenberg bird sanctuary—an update. *Promerops* 228: 11–12. (No address given)

Some notes on this 10 ha sanctuary at confluence of Liesbeek and Black Rivers.

Whyte I. 1998. Birding hotspot—the Kruger National Park. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (2): 38–46. (No address given)

Where to go and what to see. Park list has 54% of southern African avifauna.

Ringling

Akinpelu A.I. 1997. Body mass and moult cycles in adult Orange-cheeked Waxbill *Estrilda melpoda* in Ife-Ife, Nigeria. *Ostrich* 67: 119–120. (Dept. Zool., Obafemi Awolowo Univ., Ife, Nigeria)

On birds caught Apr 1987–Mar 1990 on University campus.

Hanmer D.B. 1997. Miscellaneous measurements and moult of non-passerine birds from Mozambique and Malawi. 2. Raptors and owls. *Honeyguide* 43: 214–218. (Mitsasa, PO Box 3076, Paulington, Mutare, Zimbabwe)

70 individuals of 20 species.

Hanmer D.B. 1997. Bird longevity in the Eastern Highlands of Zimbabwe—drought survivors. *SAFRING News* 26: 47–54. (Mitsasa, PO Box 3076, Paulington, Mutare, Zimbabwe)

Data from a garden showed males survived better than females and adults better than juveniles. General habit of movement appeared important.

Hanmer D.B. 1998. Miscellaneous measurements and moult of non-passerine birds from Mozambique and Malawi: 3. Crakes, waders and other water-associated birds. *Honeyguide* 44: 14–18. (Mitsasa, PO Box 3076, Paulington, Mutare, Zimbabwe)

Notes on 180 individuals of 20 species.

Hanmer D.B. & Chadder B. 1997. Sunbird notes from the Mutare and Bvumba areas. *Honeyguide* 43: 220–223. (Mitsasa, PO Box 3076, Paulington, Mutare, Zimbabwe)

Notes on 8 species of *Nectarinia* and 1 *Antbreptes* at 3 sites in Eastern Highlands and first author's garden, mostly from ringling.

Oatley T.B. & Best C.C. 1997. Report on the 1996–1997 ringing year. *SAFRING News* 26: 67–71. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Statistical Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)
Over 67,000 birds ringed.

Oatley T.B. & Best C.C. 1997. Selected recoveries reported to SAFRING January 1997–June 1997. *SAFRING News* 26: 72–80. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Statistical Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)
106 reports of 49 species including 6 species (18 records) of foreign ringed.

Oschadleus D. & Best C. 1997. Report back on the Redbilled Quelea project. *SAFRING News* 26: 83. (No address given)

A note about the *Quelea quelea* project which has so far ringed over 22,000 birds.

Saadaoui E.M. 1997. Liste des controles et reprises d'oiseaux bagner realisees ou signales par le GOMAC en 1996. *Porphyrio* 9: 51–64. (Fac. des Sci. de Meknès, BP 4010, Beni M'Hamed 50003, Meknès, Morocco)

List of ringing recoveries noted (61 of 11 species from herons to terns).

Tyler S.J. & Tyler L. 1997. A year's ringing at Phakalane Sewage Lagoons in south east Botswana. *SAFRING News* 26: 81–82. (Room 106, DAHP, PB 0032, Gaborone, Botswana)

Account of some of the birds caught and ringed.

Miscellaneous

Butynski T. 1995. Myiasis in two free-living Crowned Eagles. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 10: 49–50. (Zoo Atlanta, Africa Biodiv. Conserv. Prog., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

2 *Stephanoaetus coronatus* found with wounds probably inflicted by another bird of same species and red colobus monkeys respectively. Recommendations for field treatment given.

Dennis N.J. 1998. Photography in progress. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 2 (6): 24–25. (No address given)

Some dos and don'ts of photographing birds together with suggestions for safe practice.

Dennis N.J. 1998. Photography in progress. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (1): 24–25. (No address given)

Some notes on overriding automatic exposure meters.

Dennis N.J. 1998. Photography in progress. *Africa: Birds & Birding* 3 (2): 24–25. (No address given)

On choosing the right aperture.

Dennis N.J. 1998. Photography in progress—the power of light. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (3): 24–25. (No address given)

Some notes and tips on using light to get good photographs.

Dennis N.J. 1998. Photography in progress. The learning curve part 1. *Africa—Birds & Birding* 3 (4): 22–23. (No address given)

Some general notes on the art of photographing birds.

Hobbs J. (ed) 1998. The Cape Bird Club Jubilee. *Promerops* Suppl. to 233: 1–55. (No address given)

A history of the Club since 1948 in 5 chapters and includes an essay by F. van der Merwe on “Our ever changing birdlife” and a list of publications. Some fascinating anecdotes about and by various prominent members and ex-members.

Komen E.J. 1995. Myiasis in injured wildlife. *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 10: 50–51. (NARREC, PO Box 11232, Windhoek, Namibia)

A vet replies to Butynski 1995 *J. Afr. Rap. Biol.* 10: 49–50) and adds more suggestions.

Mundy P.J. 1998. Yet another melanistic House Sparrow. *Honeyguide* 44: 32–33. (Dept. Nat. Parks, PO Box 2283, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

Passer domesticus in Bulawayo in Mar 1990.

Pauw A. 1998. Pollen transfer on bird tongues. *Bee Eater* 49: 28. (No address given)

Lesser Double-collared Sunbird *Nectarinia chalybea* pollinated *Microlaema sagittatum*, a member of the milkweed family Asclepidaceae.

Ryan P. 1998. Mallard–Yellowbilled Duck hybrids. *Promerops* 234: 13. (No address given)

Anas platyrhynchos seem to hybridise sometimes with *A. undulata* 3 such seen at Langebaan Lagoon.

Tripp M. 1998. The Cape Bird Club Golden Jubilee. *Africa: Birds & Birding* 3 (2): 74–75. (No address given)

A brief history of the 50-year old club.

Abstracts from the International Ornithological Congress held in Durban, South Africa in August 1998

These were published as volume 69 of *Ostrich* under the editorship of Adams N.J. & Slotow R.H.. The full reference of each should read:

Author(s). 1998. Title. In: Adams N.J. & Slotow R.H. (eds) Proc. 22 Int. Ornithol. Congress Durban. *Ostrich* 69: page number(s).

This has been abbreviated to:

Author. 1998. Title. Contribution number. *IOC*: page number.

The contribution number refers to the section of the Proceedings: **Sn.m** is Contribution m to Symposium n (each symposium had a summary followed by 5 contributions), **On.m** is contribution m to Oral Session n, and **Xn** for poster n in section X where X is A to L. (In the volume there are also **Pn** for Plenary Lecture n and **RTn** for Round Table Discussion n although none of these appear below.)

The numbers of abstracts in each section is noted above. It was very noticeable that Taxonomy and Evolution and especially Conservation were very well represented as disciplines at the Congress, at least as far as Africa is concerned. Clearly there is an increasing and widespread concern about the conservation of Africa's birds in the international community.

Records—Checklists

Agbelusi E.A., Afolayan T.A. & Agbelusi A.A. 1998. Check list of birds of Ifon Game Reserve, Ondo State, Nigeria. B005. *IOC*: 275. (Dept. Fisheries & Wildl., Fed. Univ. of Tech., PMB 704, Akure, Nigeria)
110 species found in this forest zone reserve of nearly 300 km².

Migration—Palearctic

Biebach H. 1998. Crossing the Mediterranean sea and the Sahara: interaction of strategy and physiology. S33.4. *IOC*: 104. (Max-Planck-Inst. of Behav. Physiol., D-82346 Andechs, Germany)

Garden Warblers *Sylvia borin* reduce mass of digestive system by 50% during long flight; takes at least a day to recover when flight finished or birds stopover.

Meyburg B.-U. & Meyburg C. 1998. The study of raptor migration in the Old World using satellite telemetry. S49.2. *IOC*: 151. (World Working Group on Birds of Prey, Wangenheimstr. 32, 14193 Berlin, Germany)

69 birds of 11 species studied so far and revealed many unexpected and previously unknown routes and facts.

Salewski V., van Stünzner-Karbe D., Leisler B. & Bairlein F. 1998. Winter site fidelity and territoriality of the Pied Flycatcher in its West-African winter quarters. 002.4. *IOC*: 197. (Inst. für Vogelforschung, Vogelwarte Helgoland, An der Vogelwarte 21, 26386 Wilhelmshaven, Germany)

Ficedula hypoleuca shows high fidelity within and between winters in Comoe Nat. Park, Ivory Coast, but less so in habitats considered sub-optimal.

van den Bossche W., Kaatz M. & Querner U. 1998. Satellite tracking of White Storks *Ciconia ciconia*. S49.5. *IOC*: 152. (Rijmenamseweg 86, B-2820 Bonheiden, Belgium)

To date radios on 53 birds from Germany, Poland and Israel mostly to Sudan for the winter.

Migration—Afrotropical

Adeyemo A.I. 1998. Seasonal migration in some tropical birds. B002. *IOC*: 274. (Dept. Fisheries & Wildl., Fed. Univ. of Tech., PMB 704, Akure, Nigeria)

Movements of 4 heron species in Oyo Nat. Park, Nigeria.

Jones P.J., Cheke R.A. & Mundy P.J. 1998. Migration patterns of Red-billed Queleas *Quelea quelea* in southern Africa and the validity of *Q. q. spoliator*. 122. *IOC*: 402–403. (ICAPB, Univ. Edinburgh, King's Buildings, Edinburgh EH9 3JT, UK)

Q. q. spoliator and *Q. q. lathamii* breed in southern Africa and migrate similarly. Morphological data re-examined and role of timing of breeding and migration reviewed.

General Biology

Downs C.T., Wirminghaus J.O., Symes C.T. & Perrin M.R. 1998. The importance of *Podocarpus* spp. to the Cape Parrot *Poicephalus robustus robustus* (Gmelin). B025. *IOC*: 282. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Natal, PB X01, Scottsville 3209, South Africa)

Are a major food and can be important for breeding and social interactions in eastern South African montane forest areas.

Oschadley H.D. 1998. Activity budgets of breeding Southern Masked Weavers *Ploceus velatus*. A62. *IOC*: 263–264. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

93 hours at colonies.

Ecology

Baumann S. 1998. Where have all the orioles gone? Ecology of *Oriolus oriolus* in their resting area. B010. *IOC*: 277. (Inst. für Haustierkunde, Christian-Albrechts-Univ. Kiel, Olshausenstr. 40, D-24118 Kiel, Germany)

Eurasian Golden Orioles arrive in winter quarters when Black-headed *O. larvatus* and African Golden *O. auratus* are breeding. Differences exist with former, the latter does not tolerate Eurasian in its breeding territory but all can be together after breeding season.

Beresford P., Cracraft J. & Dickerman R. 1998. New interpretations of the history of the Central African forest avifauna. 005.3. *IOC*: 207. (Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 79th St at Central Park West, New York, NY 10024, USA)

Refugia thought to be Cameroon, Gabon-coastal and eastern Congo areas of endemism. Mitochondrial DNA samples of several families to help elucidate.

Bleher B. & Böhning-Gaese K. 1998. A comparison of seed dispersal by birds in *Commiphora* spp. between South Africa and Madagascar. L03. *IOC*: 465–466. (Inst. für Biol. II, RWTH Aachen, Kopernikstr. 16, 52074 Aachen, Germany)

Dispersal much higher in South Africa due to differences in feeding behaviour and frugivore diversity.

Dean W.R.J. 1998. A framework for the ecology of birds in the Karoo. B023. *IOC*: 281. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Physical environment and vegetation have major consequences for avifauna. Consequences include species richness correlated with rainfall but endemics often in drier parts, and patchiness promotes nomadic species.

Erard C. 1998. Long-term tropical bird forest community studies in northeast Gabon. S43.3. *IOC*: 133. (Lab. de Zool. et CNRS URA 1183, Mus. Nat. d'Hist. Nat., Paris, France)

Bird communities studied over 25 years with many detailed studies of foraging, breeding and social organisation.

van der Have T.M. & van den Brink B. 1998. Barn Swallows in Africa: effects of rainfall on body condition and speed of moult. S04.4. *IOC*: 17. (WIWO, c/o Driebergseweg 16c, 3708 JB Zeist, The Netherlands)

Body mass and speed of moult of *Hirundo rustica* in Botswana is result of interaction of rainfall and amount of available roosting habitat. Differences found in moult, and size, between northern and southern populations in Ghana.

Isaack H.A. 1998. Co-evolution of man, bird, bee and impending death of a unique symbiosis. S23.4. *IOC*: 74. (c/o Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

It appears that the relationship between Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicator* and man is disappearing for cultural reasons. Predicts implications for the bird.

Jackson S. 1998. Avian nectarivores that breed in winter: balancing energy and water. S25.2. *IOC*: 79. (Physiol. Dept., Univ. of Witwatersrand Medical Sch., 7 York Rd, Parktown 2193, South Africa)

Several sunbird and sugarbird species breed in winter when most flowers are out but it is colder. Seems they are similar to the better studied hummingbirds.

Jansen R., Little R. & Crowe T. 1998. Effects of pasture farming on francolin populations (Galliformes) and other bird assemblages in highland grassland. J044. *IOC*: 433. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Numbers of Redwing Francolin *Francolinus levaillantii* and species richness highest in unburnt, ungrazed grasslands. Two assemblages recognised based on species richness.

de Klerk H.M. & Crowe T.M. 1998. Patterns of distribution of Afrotropical birds. I11. *IOC*: 398–399. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Major avifaunal zones reflect vegetation but precise boundaries dependent on subset used. Causal processes differed among zones.

Lens L. & Matthysen E. 1998. Dispersal studies in recently and traditionally fragmented forests: a comparison between Kenya and Belgium. S41.2. *IOC*: 127. (Lab. of Anim. Ecol., Dept. Biol. (UIA), Univ. Antwerp, B-2610 Antwerp, Belgium)

Movement patterns of 9 forest species of Taita Hills in SE Kenya show pronounced interspecific differences with the more restricted species less mobile between fragments.

Matiku P.M. & Bennun L.A. 1998. Habitat choice by the globally threatened East Coast Akalat *Sheppardia guntingi sokokensis* (Van Someren 1921) in Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, Kenya. B062. *IOC*: 297. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

15 habitat factors predicted to be important. Best habitat is high percent canopy density, many mossy logs and high percent vegetation cover at 2m high.

Miles D.B., Corbin C.E. & Pearson D.L. 1998. The ecological morphology of community structure and foraging regime in three old world lowland forest passerine

assemblages, B066. *IOC*: 298–299. (Ohio Univ., Athens, Ohio 45701, USA)

Borneo, New Guinea and Gabon forests studied. There is a strong role for phylogeny in affecting patterns among sites with ecology structuring local assemblages.

Muchai M., Bennun L. & Lens L. 1998.

The ecology of Sharpe's Longclaw *Macronyx sharpei*—a Kenya grassland endemic bird. B068. *IOC*: 299. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Endangered species confined to montane grassland. Studied in 3km² area of Kinangop Plateau. Best habitat is short grass with tussocks.

Oyugi J.O., Bennun L. & Brooks T.

1998. Effects of fragmentation on abundance of forest birds in Kakamega Forest, Kenya. O04.5. *IOC*: 204. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Overall, understorey generalists positively and canopy specialists negatively affected.

Parker V. 1998. The Mozambique atlas project. I43. *IOC*: 410. (Endangered Wildl. Trust, Johannesburg 2000, South Africa)

Maps at quarter degree square with area south of Save River to be published late in 1998. Will include estimates of population.

Peach W.J. 1998. The evidence for high adult survival in tropical passerines. S06.1. *IOC*: 21. (RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Beds SG19 2DL, UK)

Significant evidence now from Africa and Neotropics for survival typically being 50% to 90% cf. 30% to 70% in temperate regions.

Piper S.E. & Oatley T.B. 1998. Two-tier survival patterns: territory holders vs. the rest. S06.3. *IOC*: 22. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Natal, PB X01, Scottsville 3209, South Africa)

Study of Long-tailed Wagtail *Motacilla clara* and Starred Robin *Pogonochila stellata* in forests of South Africa over 20 years showed territory holders survival 70–85% and higher than those failing to secure a territory.

Simiyu A. 1998. Some aspects of demography and movement patterns of sandgrouse in southern Kenya. J096. *IOC*: 452. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

2 species studied at waterholes in non-breeding season. About quarter to a sixth drank each day and numbers depended on characteristics of waterhole.

Taylor B. 1998. Ecology and conservation of the White-winged Flufftail. B099. *IOC*: 310. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Natal, PB X01, Scottsville 3209, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa)

Sarothrura ayresi occurs seasonally at 9 sites in South Africa with c230 birds extant. A new Ethiopian site has c200 pairs.

Taylor S. & Perrin M. 1998. The ecology of the Brown-headed Parrot *Poicephalus cryptoxanthus*. B100. *IOC*: 310. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Natal, PB X01, Scottsville 3209, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa)

Some general notes on ecology, food and breeding.

Treca B. 1998. Birds fashion savannas. B103. *IOC*: 311–312. (ORSTOM, 2 allée des Bruyères, 78310 Maurepas, France)

Birds supply fertiliser and distribute seeds of trees and other plants. With elephants, dromedaries and fruit bats gone birds could be the most important.

Tushabe H. & Pomeroy D. 1998.

Modelling species distribution for conservation planning. J107. *IOC*: 456. (Inst. of Env. and Nat. Res., PO Box 7298, Kampala, Uganda)

Knowledge is sparse on bird diversity over Uganda. Models developed from vegetation, climate etc to predict bird diversity. 90% accurate forest specialists and 80% for dry areas.

Virani M. & Harper D.M. 1998. The African Fish Eagle at Lake Naivasha, Kenya. J115. *IOC*: 460. (Nat. Mus. Kenya, Elsamere, PO Box 1497, Naivasha, Kenya)

Haliaeetus vocifer declined by 50% since 1970 and juveniles now only 4% cf 20%. Overfishing is main problem combined with loss of water and hence shoreline.

Conservation

Allan D.G. 1998. Mega-developments and birds: the Lesotho highlands water scheme as an example. S27.5. *IOC*: 85. (Durban Nat. Sci. Mus., PB 4085, Durban, South Africa)

Is one of world's Endemic Bird Areas holding 3 endemic species and many more subspecies. Study details impact of various dams built and being built and tries to generalise lessons.

Allan D.G. & Bennun L. 1998.

Afrotropical birds and conservation biology: reconciling theory and practice. S27.Summary. *IOC*: 84. (Durban Nat. Sci. Mus., PB 4085, Durban, South Africa)

Symposium intended to take a broad overview of Africa's conservation problems especially the push towards extinction of many local species.

Barnes K. 1998. Collisions of first world and third world conservation ideologies: the IBA example. S27.2. *IOC*: 85. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Statistical Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

The IBA programme in South Africa highlighted that the country suffers from both typically first world and third world problems.

Bennun L. 1998. Threatened birds and rural communities: balancing the equation. S27.4. *IOC*: 86. (Dept. Orn., Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

Policy and grassroots level approaches are essential. Imaginative combination of education, land purchase and economic incentives may be needed but not yet attempted in Africa.

Dranzoa C. 1998. Effects of forest fragmentation and degradation on the avifauna of Uganda. O06.5. *IOC*: 211. (Makerere Univ., PO Box 7298, Kampala, Uganda)

Fragmentation affects more than degradation but both important for biodiversity.

Fotso R.C. 1998. The contribution of indigenous knowledge of birds to the management of tropical forests. S23.2. *IOC*: 73. (c/o Ecofac/Cameroun, PO Box 13844, Yaoundé, Cameroun)

Local people have great knowledge and often have sacred forests and shrines where knowledge will be passed on for a long time to come.

Gichuki N.N. 1998. The role of indigenous knowledge of Crowned Cranes in setting bird conservation priorities in Kenya. S23.5. *IOC*: 74. (Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

The range of *Balearia regulorum* inhabited by about 22 ethnic groups most of whom recognise the importance of the bird in cultural life and have much knowledge of its ecology and behaviour.

Harper D.M., Adatia R., Virani M. & Henderson I. 1998. Avian indicators of habitat change and conservation requirements on tropical wetlands. J038. *IOC*: 430. (Dept. Biol., Univ. Leicester, Leicester LE1 7RH, UK)

Numbers of waterbirds are negatively dependent on numbers of introduced crayfish and humans also influence at Lake Naivasha in Kenya.

Harrison J.A. & Navarro R.A. 1998. Protected areas in South Africa: the effect of size on the presence and abundance of woodland birds. S27.3. *IOC*: 85. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Statistical Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Data from atlas and Birds in Reserves Project showed that some species are very dependent on large protected areas and many also on unprotected areas.

Hawkins A.F.A. 1998. Forest degradation and the Western Malagasy forest bird

community. 006.4. *IOC*: 211. (BirdLife Int., BP 1074, Antananarivo, Madagascar)

Terrestrial and understorey insectivores most affected by degradation. Primary and secondary forests have different communities with most of endemics restricted to former.

Jarvis A.M. & Robertson A. 1998.

Predicting population sizes and priority conservation areas for 10 endemic Namibian bird species. 106. *IOC*: 467. (Dir. Env. Affairs, Min. Env. & Tourism, PB 13306, Windhoek, Namibia)

Predicted population sizes using line transect sampling and GIS. Escarpment vegetation zone found to be very important habitat with little currently protected.

Kelso J.F., Harley E.H. & O'Ryan C. 1998.

A molecular investigation of the effects of longline fishing on South Atlantic seabirds. J048. *IOC*: 434. (Dept. Chem. Path., Univ. Cape Town Med. Sch., Observatory 7925, South Africa)

High levels of polymorphism found in White-chinned Petrel *Procellaria aequinoctialis*. Could be used to determine which breeding populations are affected by the fishing.

Kemp A.C. 1998.

Biological attributes predisposing Afrotropical birds to the threats of man-induced extinction. S27.1. *IOC*: 84. (Dept. Birds, Transvaal Mus., PO Box 413, Pretoria 0001, South Africa)

Biology of species which are safe, vulnerable, threatened or extinct were compared. Range continuity, range size, population density and body size the most positively related to probability of extinction.

Le Maitre S. 1998.

Translocation of the Seychelles Magpie Robin *Copsychus sechellarum*. J054. *IOC*: 436. (Cousine Island, c/o GPO Ground Anse, Pruskin, Seychelles)

Introduced populations well established on Cousin and Cousine but have repeatedly failed on Aride.

Lotter L. & Bouwman H. 1998.

Geographical distribution of organochlorine pesticide residue levels in Helmeted guineafowl. J058. *IOC*: 438. (Plant Protection Res. Inst., Agric. Res. Council, PB X134, Pretoria, South Africa)

Numida meleagris contains residues and is suitable indicator of levels in environment.

Lucking R., McCulloch N. & Pain D. 1998.

The conservation management of the Seychelles Magpie Robin. J060. *IOC*: 438–439. (RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Beds SG19 2DL, UK)

Review of BirdLife International Project for conserving *Copsychus sechellarum*.

Lunceny C.F. 1998. Promoting sustainable wildlife conservation programme in Guinea—mangrove ecosystems management in Sangareya Bay. J017. *IOC*: 422. (Guinea Wildl. Conserv. Ass. (ASCOFAGUI), Nat. Dir. of Env., BP 3118, Conakry, Republic of Guinea)

Surveys of 28,000 ha site found c60,000 waterbirds and mangroves are nesting site for several.

Mangnall M. & Crowe T.M. 1998.

Egyptian Geese: agricultural pests or a sustainable resource? J061. *IOC*: 439. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Alopochen aegyptiacus is both a pest and an economic resource for wildfowlers in Western Cape.

Maphasa L.J. & Perrin M.R. 1998.

Parrots in South Africa: their trade, conservation and utilisation. J062. *IOC*: 439. (Res. Centre for African Parrot Conserv., Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Natal, PB X01, Scottsville 3209, South Africa)

KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng Provinces account for about 70% of trade in South Africa. Most imports are illegal and trade does not involve local people in most cases.

McCann K. 1998. The South African Crane Working Group and National Crane Conservation Project. J063. *IOC*: 440. (Endangered Wildl. Trust, PB X11, Parkview 2122, South Africa)

Notes on Group formed in 1995 to help all cranes Gruidae.

McCann K. & Ronchini S. 1998. An integrated management plan for Wattled Cranes *Bugeramus carunculatus* in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. J064. *IOC*: 440. (EWT/Eskom Nat. Crane Conserv. Project, PO Box 1047, Mooi River 3300, South Africa)

Developed a GIS of relationships between land use and crane breeding. Management recommendations made.

McCann K. & Wilkins H. 1998. Route selection for a 400 kV powerline that least impacts the KwaZulu-Natal crane populations. J065. *IOC*: 441. (EWT/Eskom Nat. Crane Conserv. Project, PO Box 1047, Mooi River 3300, South Africa)

Observations of breeding sites, movements and home ranges of 3 species of crane led to preferred route.

Mlingwa C. & Mlingwa L. 1998. Ecology of the East Coast Akalat *Sheppardia guntingi* in Tanzania. J068. *IOC*: 441–442. (Dept. Zool., Univ. Dar-es-Salaam, PO Box 35064, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania)

Notes from ringing study in Pugu Hills found it to be only in primary forest.

Motalaote S., Flake L.D. & Bouwman H. 1998.

Nesting and boat disturbance of colonial nesting birds in the Okavango Delta, Botswana. J069. *IOC*: 442. (Dept. Wildl., PO Box 131, Gabarone, Botswana)

Several species affected.

Nel D.C., Hurford J. & Ryan P.G. 1998.

Why is there sex-biased mortality of seabirds in the Prince Edward Island Toothfish fishery? J070. *IOC*: 442. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

3 of most commonly killed species showed strong bias towards males in breeding season (79–86%), contrasting with female biases at more distant sites. Reasons explored.

Nhancale C.C., Bento C.M. & de Boer W.F. 1998.

The impact of the House Crow *Corvus splendens* on the Inhaca Island, Mozambique. J072. *IOC*: 443. (Dept. Ciencias Biol., Univ. Eduardo Mondlane, CP 257, Maputo, Mozambique)

Introduced in 1960s it is steadily increasing. Eradication has been tried but failed so far. Now cost-benefit study initiated to see whether it is feasible.

Pegoraro K. & Foger M. 1998. Conservation biology of Bald and Waldrapp Ibis *Geronticus calvus*, *G. eremita*: a comparison. J078. *IOC*: 445. (Inst. Zool. & Limnology, Technikerstr. 25, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria)

Comparison of field studies in Turkey and Morocco with literature on South Africa aimed at helping save the species.

Perrin M.R., Selman R.G. & Hunter M.L. 1998.

The ecology of the Ruppell's Parrot *Poicephalus rueppellii*. J081. *IOC*: 446. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Natal, PB X01, Scottsville 3209, South Africa)

Notes on nesting, food and trade of this species nearly endemic to Namibia.

Ramanampamonjy J.R. 1998. Ardeidae survey in Antananarivo region, Madagascar with special reference to Pond Heron. J084. *IOC*: 447. (Parc Bot. et Zool. de Tsimbazaza, BP 4096, Antananarivo (101), Madagascar)

8 of the 14 species seen in Madagascar found in surveys including 2 sites for *Ardeola idae*.

Raminoarisoa V., Rakotonomen-janahary O., Robertson P.A., Rabenandrasana M. & Hawkins A.F.A. 1998.

Priority areas for avian biodiversity conservation in Madagascar. 003.4. *IOC*: 200–201. (Projet ZICOMA, BirdLife International, BP 1074, Antananarivo 101, Madagascar)

A series of previously unknown sites surveyed as part of IBA programme.

Current protected sites reviewed and additional list proposed.

Ratcliffe C.S. & Crowe T.M. 1998. Decline of Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris* in KwaZulu-Natal: habitat utilisation, agrochemicals and diseases. J085. *IOC*: 447–448. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Land use changes primarily from crop and pasture farming responsible for declines although pesticides and diseases can contribute in small local populations.

van Rooyen C. & McCann K. 1998. Birds and powerlines: the EWT/Eskom partnership. J110. *IOC*: 457. (Endangered Wildl. Trust, PB X11, Parkview 2122, South Africa)

Several species affected but results now co-ordinated.

Sekercioglu C.H. 1998. The effects of forestry practices on the vegetation structure and bird communities of an Afrotropical forest. J091. *IOC*: 449–450. (Harvard Univ., Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA)

Effects of selective logging and conifer plantation studied in Kibale, western Uganda. Primary forest species most affected.

Shannon L.J. & Crawford R.J.M. 1998. The impact of disturbance by tourists to the Jackass Penguin colony at Robben Island. O06.8. *IOC*: 212. (Sea Fisheries Res. Inst., PB X2, Rogge Bay 8012, South Africa)

Currently OK for numbers and breeding success of *Spheniscus demersus* but planned increase in visitors will need to be managed carefully.

Verdoorn G. 1998. Solving the problems of pesticide misuse for avian conservation in southern Africa. S18.2. *IOC*: 58. (Raptor Conserv. Group, PO Box 72155, Parkview 2122, Johannesburg, South Africa)

Main problems caused especially by agricultural chemicals, and especially for cranes and raptors.

van der Walt E., Meinhardt H.R., Venter A.J. & Bouwman H. 1998. Primary and secondary effects of Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea* control in South Africa. J108. *IOC*: 456. (ARC Plant Protection Res. Inst., PARU, PB X134, Pretoria, South Africa)

Pesticides and explosions used to control species. Both harm non-target species at times.

Whittington P., Crawford R., Dyer B., Gildenhuys A., Nel D., Oatley T., Thornton M., Underhill L., Upfold L., Williams A. & Wolfaardt A. 1998. The rehabilitation of oiled African Penguins: a

success story. J020. *IOC*: 423. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Survival of *Spheniscus demersus* released after cleaning from oiling as high as for non-oiled birds.

Whittington-Jones C., Hulley P. & Craig A. 1998. The impact of granivorous birds at feedlots in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. J118. *IOC*: 460–461. (Rhodes Univ., Grahamstown, South Africa)

Birds, especially doves and ploceids, are pests at Ostrich *Struthio camelus* farms by taking food (up to 95% of their diet). Changes in presentation of food is most cost-effective solution.

Yaokokore-Beibro K.H. 1998. Birds as indicators of Bossématie and Béki forest regeneration. J125. *IOC*: 461. (Univ. Abidjan/Cocody, Dept. Zool., BP 368, Abidjan 22, Ivory Coast)

Older forest supports high bird diversity.

Behaviour and Voice

Crafford D., Ferguson J.W.H. & Kemp A.C. 1998. Why do Grass-owls *Tyto capensis* produce clicking calls? A13. *IOC*: 245–246. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Pretoria, Pretoria 0002, South Africa)

Experiments suggest that clicks at 2 Hz are intraspecific communication.

Delport W., Kemp A.C. & Ferguson J.W.H. 1998. Individual variation of African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii* hoot calls and implications in monitoring population dynamics. A19. *IOC*: 248. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Pretoria, Pretoria 0002, South Africa)

Calls are individually recognisable and can therefore be used for long-term dynamics studies.

Emahala R.E. & Mulder R.A. 1998. Tail elongation related to foraging behaviour of Madagascar Paradise Flycatchers *Terpsiphone mutata*. A21. *IOC*: 249. (Projet Terpsiphone, Fort-Dauphin, Province de Tulear, Madagascar)

Compared foraging behaviour of long and short streamer males and the former during the moult.

Ryan P.G. & Marshall H. 1998. The clapping arms-race: why do some Clapper Larks not bother to play the game? A70. *IOC*: 266. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Different races of *Mirafra apiata* vary in 'clapping' rate and up to 3 times normal wing flapping rate. Might vary clinically.

Saunders J.R. & Slotow R. 1998. Evolution of song structure in southern African

birds: a test of the Acoustic Adaptation Hypothesis. A71. *IOC*: 267. (Dept. Biol., Univ. Natal, Durban +041, South Africa)

Comparative study of 40 South African passerine species does not support predictions of AAH.

Venuto V., Bottoni L. & Massa R. 1998. Harmonic structure and species-specificity of food begging calls from four African parrots. A81. *IOC*: 271. (Dept. Env. Sci., Univ. Milano, via Emanueli 15, 20126 Milano, Italy)

Clear-cut differences found among 4 species of *Poicephalus*, with *P. gularis* much more so justifying its separate superspecies.

Young H.G. 1998. Water battles: the fighting techniques of Africa's mallards. A88. *IOC*: 273. (Jersey Wildl. Pres. Trust, Trinity, Jersey JE3 5BP, Channel Islands)

Comparative studies of 4 *Anas* species (3 in captivity) show major differences in techniques.

Food and Feeding

Crawford R.J.M. 1998. The response of seabird diet to variability of prey resources. S12.3. *IOC*: 40. (Sea Fisheries Res. Inst., PB X2, Rogge Bay 8012, South Africa)

Resources vary from daily to over decades and birds must adapt. Migration and prey switching often used and particular reference is made to those in Benguela ecosystem.

Henderson K. & Cherry M. 1998. Testing alternative hypotheses of provisioning in the Cape Sugarbird *Promerops cafer*. A32. *IOC*: 253. (Univ. Stellenbosch 7600, South Africa)

Female provisioning did not increase with increasing tail length in males and did not receive direct benefits if mated with long-tailed males.

Nests and Breeding Biology

Blaakmeer K.B. & Komdeur J. 1998. Parent-offspring conflict over sex ratio bias in the Seychelles Brush Warbler. O11.2. *IOC*: 226. (Dept. Zool., Univ. Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria 3052, Australia)

Female *Acrocephalus sechellensis* actively select for daughters (which help at nest) if resources rich but for sons when scarce.

Cherry M.I., Bennett A.T.D. & Cuthill I.C. 1998. Matching of eggs of the Red-chested Cuckoo and its hosts: the role of the UV waveband. O12.6. *IOC*: 231. (Dept. Zool., Univ. Stellenbosch, PB X1, Matieland 7602, South Africa)

Cuculus solitarius has 2 gentes but eggs rarely match most common South African host, the Cape Robin *Cossypha caffra*.

Looked at UV band to see whether birds see differently.

Kuiper S.M. & Cherry M.I. 1998.

Determining levels of egg discrimination in two hosts of the Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius*. A+2. *IOC*: 257. (Univ. Stellenbosch. PB X1, Matieland 7602. South Africa)

Investigated discrimination by Cape Robin *Cossypha caffra* and Olive Thrush *Turdus olivaceus* using model eggs with or without a stuffed cuckoo nearby.

Lloyd P., Little R.M. & Crowe T.M.

1998. Environmental stochasticity and nest predation: their influence on the life history and nesting strategy of sandgrouse and other arid-zone birds. S35.5. *IOC*: 110. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

11 species examined. Nest predation up to 95% and mainly random. Implications for managing Namaqua Sandgrouse *Pterocles namaqua* as sustainable resource discussed.

McRae S.B. 1998. Group dynamics and reproductive success in the White-browed Sparrow-Weaver determined using microsatellite DNA markers. O11.6. *IOC*: 228. (Dept. Zool., Downing St., Cambridge CB2 3EJ. UK)

Plocepasser mahali in Namibia live in groups. Dominant female is parent of most young but males much less certain of paternity and are much less group faithful.

Mulder R.A. 1998. Plumage polymorphism and mating system of Madagascar Paradise Flycatchers. A55. *IOC*: 261. (Austr. Nat. Univ., ACT, Australia)

Looked for any differences between rufous and white morphs (the elongated tail feathers) of male *Terpsiphone mutata*.

Whittington P.A., Dyer B.M., Crawford R.J.M. & Williams A.J. 1998.

Leach's Storm Petrel: a new breeding species for Africa and the southern hemisphere. I52. *IOC*: 414. (Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Oceanodroma leucorhoa off South African coast.

Taxonomy and Evolution

Barnes K. 1998. The evolution of Africa's arid zones: the larks as a case study. I04. *IOC*: 396. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

North-east and south-west arid zones are centres of endemism for Alaudidae and studies involving mitochondrial DNA sequencing are undertaken.

Bell D.A., Lawson R.L. & Hartley R.

1998. Molecular phylogeny of the Peregrine

Falcon, Teita Falcon and related species: a global perspective. I05. *IOC*: 396. (California Acad. Sci., Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA, USA)

Falco peregrinus and *F. fasciatus* mitochondrial DNA shows an ancient divergence.

Bloomer P., Ryan P.G. & Crowe T.M.

1998. Some surprises from a molecular phylogeny for Southern African larks. I07. *IOC*: 397. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Pretoria. Pretoria 0001, South Africa)

28 alaudid taxa studied and suggests that there may be even more species than currently thought.

Craig A.J. 1998. Weaving a story: African and Madagascan ploceids. S50.2. *IOC*: 154. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Rhodes Univ., Grahamstown 6140, South Africa)

Skeletal features, feather ultrastructure and feather pigmentation support that *Euplectes*, *Foudia* and *Quelea* are related and that there are at least 5 lines of *Ploceus*.

Donatelli R.J. 1998. The relationships of Neotropical and of Afrotropical woodpeckers: dispersion or vicariance model? I13. *IOC*: 399. (UNESP, CP 473, Bauru, 17033-360 Sao Paulo, Brazil)

12 species studied using cladistics. Vicariance better for distribution of Picinae but Jynginae can only be explained by dispersion model.

Foeger M., Pegoraro K. & Parson W.

1998. Phylogenetic relationship of Bald *Geronticus calvus* and Waldrapp Ibis *G. eremita*: evidence from mt-DNA sequences. I16. *IOC*: 400. (Inst. Zool. & Limnology, Technikerstr. 25, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria)

The 2 species are very similar.

Friesen V.L., Lodha V., Monteiro L.R. & Furness R.W. 1998.

Evidence for sympatric speciation in the Band-rumped Storm-Petrel *Oceanodroma castro*. I17. *IOC*: 400–401. (Queen's Univ., Kingston, Ontario, Canada)

2 temporally separated populations breed on Azores appear genetically different.

Goodman S.M. 1998. Changes in the avifauna of south central Madagascar over the past few millennia. S50.4. *IOC*: 155. (Chicago Field Mus., Roosevelt Rd at Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60605, USA)

Species composition changed considerably over last 4,000 years and man has been there for about 2,000. Hypotheses associated with natural aridification and human degradation examined.

James H.F. 1998. The extinct Giant Couas, *Coua*, Cuculidae of northwest Madagascar. S50.3. *IOC*: 154. (Birds, MRC-116, Nat. Mus. of nat. hist., Smithsonian Inst., Washington, USA)

Recent collecting shows that there are indeed 2 fossil species.

Louette M. 1998. The origin of the West African avifauna. S50.1. *IOC*: 153. (Royal Mus. for Central Africa, B-3080 Tervuren, Belgium)

Birds west of Cameroon ridge found to be an impoverishment of central equatorial avifauna. Periforest fauna outstanding and savannah one poor relative to other areas. Suggests poor habitat diversity is cause.

Manzano I., Prinzinger R. & Wink M.

1998. Phylogeny of African colies: sequence-analysis of haemoglobin and mitochondrial cytochrome-b gene. I28. *IOC*: 405. (AK Stoffwechselphysiol., J W Goethe-Univ. Frankfurt/Main, Siesmayerstr. 70, D-60323, Frankfurt/Main, Germany)

Haemoglobin results suggest Coliiformes close to parrots, cuckoos and gulls. Results of other to be given at Congress.

Massa R. 1998. A molecular approach to the taxonomy and biogeography of African parrots. I30. *IOC*: 406. (Dept. Env. Sci., Univ. Milan, via Emanueli 15, 20126 Milan, Italy)

Random amplified polymorphic DNA analysis more or less confirmed conventional taxonomy.

Potapov R.L. & Schulenberg T.S. 1998.

Origin of African avifaunas. S50. Summary *IOC*: 153. (Zool. Mus., Univ. nab.1, 199034, St Petersburg, Russia)

Symposium presents data on palaeontology, morphology and molecular studies of African and Malagasy birds.

Slikas B., Fjeldså J., Goodman S.M. & Schulenberg T.S. 1998.

Molecular evidence for relationships of African/Malagasy birds. S50.5. *IOC*: 155. (Zool. Inst., Universitetsparken 15, DK-2100, Copenhagen, Denmark)

New morphological and molecular data have shown that past taxonomic decisions often misleading. Discuss relationships of greenbuls *Phyllastrephus* and babblers *Crossleyia*, *Oxyulabes* and *Mystacomis*.

Sorenson M.D. & Payne R.B. 1998. A single origin of brood parasitism in African finches. O05.6. *IOC*: 208. (Mus. Zool. & Dept. Biol., Univ. Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1079, USA)

Anomalospiza and *Vidua* are each other's closest relatives (mitochondrial DNA sequences) and not related to either Ploceidae or Estrildidae.

Symes C.T., Wirminghaus J.O., Downs

C.T. & Perrin M.R. 1998. Taxonomic relationships of the Cape Parrot *Poicephalus robustus* (Gmelin). I50. *IOC*: 413. (Dept. Zool. & Entom., Univ. Natal,

PB X01, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg 3209, South Africa)

Detailed look at the 3 subspecies.

Morphology

Dale J. 1998. Significance of variation in breeding plumage of male Red-billed Queleas *Quelea quelea*: evidence against condition dependence. A18. *IOC*: 247–248. (Dept. Neurobiol. & Behav., Seeley G. Mudd Hall, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY 14853, USA)

Plumage hue did not correlate with reproductive success and suggests that variability is caused to facilitate individual recognition among nesting males.

Ramiarison R. & Mulder R. 1998. Male plumage polymorphism and song in the Madagascar Paradise-flycatcher. A66. *IOC*: 265. (Projet Terpsiphone, BP 42, Fort Dauphin, Madagascar)

All male *Terpsiphone mutata* songs different and rufous ones had fewer elements than those of white ones.

Stanback M., Boix C., Richardson D. & Mendelsohn J. 1998. Sperm storage and

pair bondage: reproductive conflict in hornbills. S44.4. *IOC*: 137. (Dept. Biol., Davidson Coll., PO Box 1719, Davidson, NC 28036, USA)

Some hornbill (Bucerotidae) eggs laid weeks after female seals herself into nest. Males go to great effort to avoid cuckoldry and Monteiro's Hornbill *Tockus monteiri* showed no extra-pair offspring in a dense population.

Ringling

Winkler R. 1998. Moulting strategies of European passerines. S10.4. *IOC*: 35. (Nat. Hist. Mus. Basel, Augustinerstrasse 2, Postfach, CH-4001 Basel, Switzerland)

Those moving further south more likely to moult fully in Africa. Some show extensive partial moults too.

Miscellaneous

Borello W.D. & Borello R.M. 1998. Making a bird bibliography. J014. *IOC*: 421. (PO Box 603, Gaborone, Botswana)

Compiled one for Botswana published in 1997.

Gichuki C.M. & Gichuki N.N. 1998. The role of museums and ornithological societies in the documentation of indigenous knowledge of birds. S23.3. *IOC*: 73. (Nat. Mus. Kenya, PO Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya)

There is still a lot of knowledge among indigenous people which has not surfaced in the scientific literature. Museums are ideal place to document and store this.

Msimanga A. 1998. The ornithological collection of the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe. I34. *IOC*: 407. (Nat. Hist. Mus. Zimbabwe, PO Box 240, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)

Is the largest in Africa with over 90,000 skins and 12,000 clutches. Is currently underused.

Turpie J.K. & Ryan P.G. 1998. The value of birds and birding in South Africa. J106. *IOC*: 455. (Percy Fitzpatrick Inst. of Afr. Orn., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa)

Questionnaires used to survey several aspects of ecotourism industry in South Africa.

African Bird Club Conservation Fund

The ABC Conservation Fund has been set up to support small conservation-based projects in Africa. The Club has allocated £3,000 (\$5,000) for 1999 and aims to encourage as wide a range of ideas as possible. Many different types of projects will be considered as long as there is a clear conservation benefit. These could include:

- survey and research into African birds
- production of guides to the common birds of a country in local languages
- educational materials
- leaflets / posters with conservation messages
- interpretation boards at nature reserves

- other ideas will be considered

Applications can be made at any time to the Club address. The maximum grant in any one case will be £500 but it is likely to be smaller. Requests should be made by letter and should include the following details:

- plan of proposed project and why it is important
- budget
- amount requested from the fund
- details of how payment can be made

As the fund is small, restrictions will apply:

- applicants must be African nationals
- the requested grant from ABC should be

a substantial part of the proposed budget ie contributions to very large projects will not be considered

- projects that reach a wide audience will be favoured

Applications should be sent to:

ABC Conservation Fund,
African Bird Club,
c/o BirdLife International,
Wellbrook Court,
Girton Road,
Cambridge CB3 0NA,
UK.

